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GREENSBURG

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1785—CHOSEN AS THE COUNTY SEAT.

INCORPORATED AS A BOROUGH 1799.

HISTORY

— OF —

MAK 24 1899

GREENSBURG

(WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA)

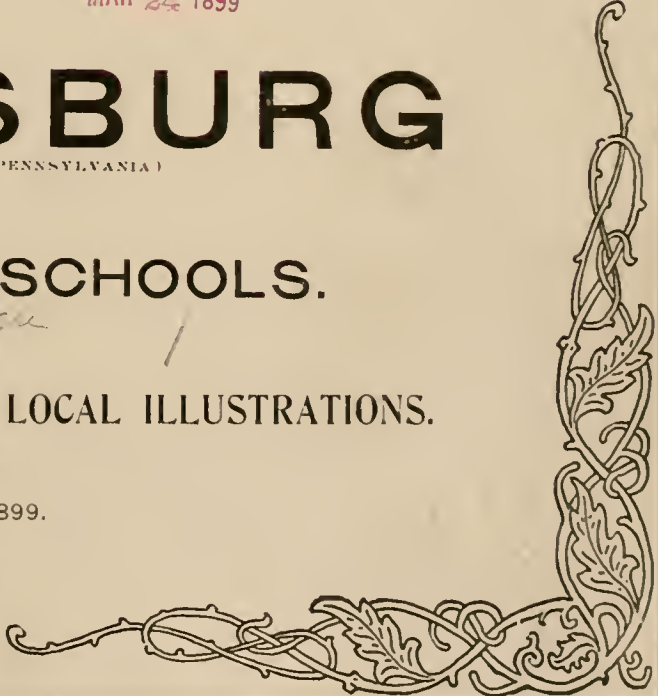
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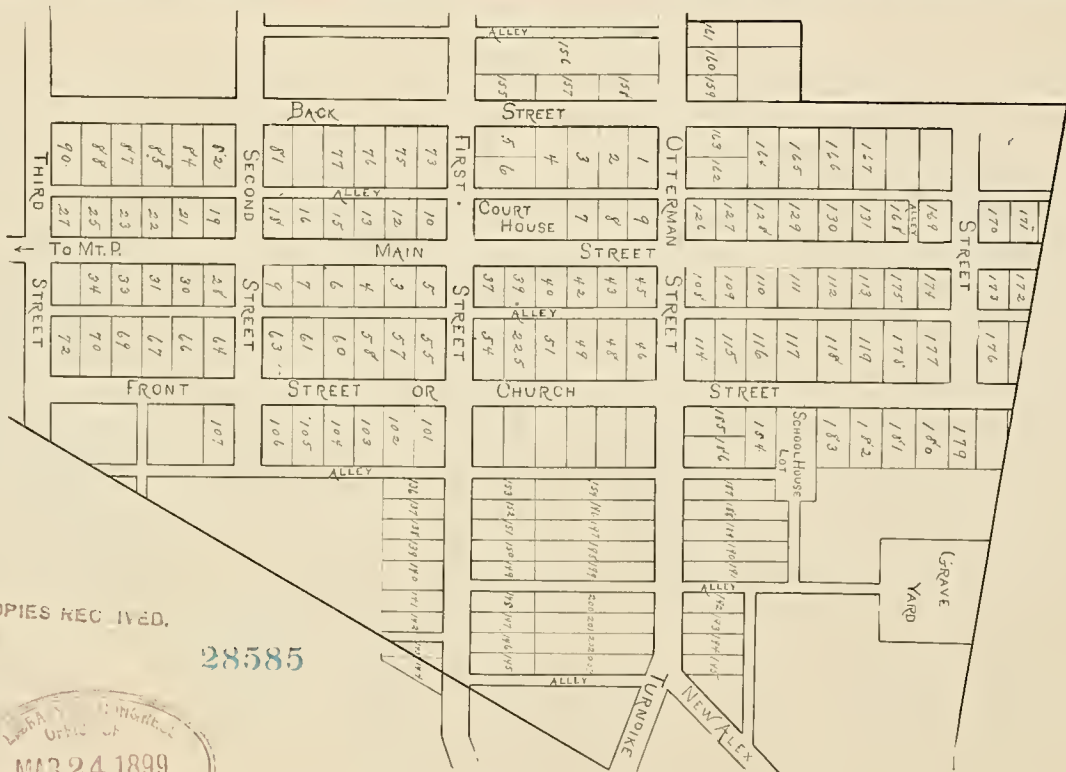
GREENSBURG SCHOOLS.

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY LOCAL ILLUSTRATIONS.

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PLAN OF EARLY GREENSBURG.

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GREENSBURG

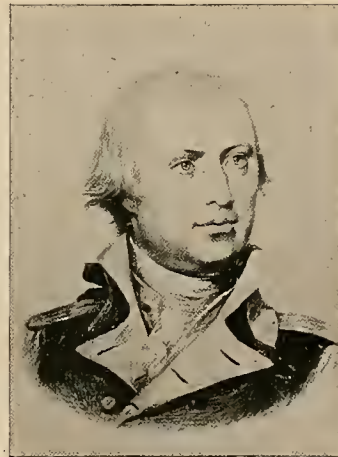
—AND—

GREENSBURG SCHOOLS.

BY B. F. VOGLE.

GREENSBURG was named in honor of that valiant and illustrious Revolutionary soldier, General Nathaniel Greene. Many of the patriots from Westmoreland, in the war for Independence, were under his command and shared with him the trials and triumphs of Monmouth, Brandywine, Germantown, Princeton, Trenton and the fateful Southern campaign.

Before and for some months after it was determined upon as the county-seat, this locality was called Newtown. As it embraced only a few log huts, at that time, one would, on first thought, conclude that the name was intended to represent what the place hoped to be rather than what it then was. There is good reason to believe, however, that Christopher Truby originally designated the little cluster of



MAJ. GEN. NATHANIEL GREENE.

cabins Newtown. He was one of the pioneer settlers of the site of Greensburg. Truby emigrated to this vicinity as early as 1771, two years before the organization of Westmoreland county. He came here from Bucks county, Penn'a. Newtown, still a flourishing village, for many years prior to 1812, was the seat of justice of that (Bucks) county. It was likewise the headquarters of Generals Washington and Greene, in 1776, while the American army was guarding the Delaware river. Doubtless, it was in fond recollection of his native county that Col. Truby conferred upon his new home in the western country, as this section was then known, the old name.

Careful research has developed very nearly the exact time when the change was made from Newtown to Greens-

burg. In a certificate of a number of the Justices of the Peace of Westmoreland county, (published elsewhere in this volume), bearing date of August 10, 1786, they allude to a Court House and prison having been erected "at Newtown." An Act of Assembly, passed September 19, 1786, pertaining to election districts, refers to "Greensburg, otherwise New-

town." In still another legislative measure, enacted December 27, 1786, relating to the Trustees for locating the seat of justice, mention is made of "the place now called Greensburg, in the Township of Hempfield." It will thus be seen that the change of the name from Newtown to Greensburg was made between the middle of August and the middle of September, 1786, and the latter recognized by the General Assembly as the only name before the close of that year.

Gen. Nathaniel Greene died near Savannah, Ga., on June 19, 1786. Because of the slow method by which news was transmitted at that early period, it is quite likely that the melancholy intelligence did not reach the western country for fully two months thereafter. Touched by the untimely death of this distinguished patriot and gallant commander, (he was only forty-four years of age), it was very natural and highly creditable to the citizens and soldiers of Westmoreland, that they offered loving tribute to his memory by giving the new countyseat his name.

Locating the Seat of Justice.

Greensburg, like nearly all county towns, came into being amid the sharp rivalry or strife of contending interests. At the time Westmoreland county was established, February 26, 1773, the house of



BANK & TRUST BUILDING.
Corner of Main and East Otterman Streets.

Robert Hanna, at the settlement subsequently known as Hannastown, was designated as the place of holding the elections and courts "until a Court House shall be built for said county." Messrs. Robert Hanna, George Wilson, Samuel Sloan, Joseph Irwin and John Caveat, or any three of them,

were named and empowered to purchase land in some convenient place, in trust, and thereupon to erect a Court House and prison: provided, that the sum to be expended did not exceed £1,00.

"Robert Hanna's house," as specifically named in the Act creating the county, was located on the road established by Gen. John Forbes, in the expedition against Fort Duquesne, in 1758. Hanna, with other pioneers, settled there (at Hannastown) some years before the formation of the county. Travelers were entertained at Hanna's house, and, in 1773, that little settlement was the most important point between Fort Ligonier and Fort Pitt. Both before and after that place was selected for holding the courts, until a countyseat should be definitely decided upon, many influential men urged that Pittsburg be chosen, temporarily and permanently, as the seat of justice. In 1773 Hannastown and Pittsburg were of about the same importance and proportions. Although a majority of the Trustees, on one occasion, made a recommendation in favor of Hannastown for the countyseat, the opposition was sufficiently strong and active to prevent sanction on the part of the authorities and cause delay.

Border troubles and the Revolutionary war likewise intervened with the effect of still further retarding decisive action. The burning of Hannas-



ZIMMERMAN HOUSE, CONDUCTED BY S. ALWINE, JR.
Corner Main and West Second Streets

town by the Indians in July, 1782, was followed by renewed agitation for a change of



RESIDENCE OF MR. S. P. BROWN.
North Main Street.

the place of holding the courts. A supplemental Act of Assembly, accordingly, was passed on March 22, 1784, setting forth that, whereas, the Trustees appointed by the law establishing the county had not complied with the powers given them, John Irwin, Benjamin Davis, Charles Campbell, James Pollock and Joseph Wilkins, or any three of them, were authorized and empowered to perform the duties recited in the Act of February 26, 1773.

Divided in the choice of a location, and members being firm in their preferences, the second board of Trustees was displaced by still another Act of the General Assembly, bearing date of September 13, 1785. At this stage of the contest the advocates of Pittsburg appear to have lost weight with the legislative powers. The rivalry then was almost entirely between the residents north and those south of the Forbes road. The new statute stated that—

“Whereas, the seat of justice of Westmoreland hath not heretofore been established by law, for want of which the inhabitants labor under great inconveniences, * * it shall and may be lawful for Benjamin Davis, Michael Rongh, John Shields, John Pomroy and Hugh Martin, of the county of Westmoreland, or any three of them, to purchase and take assurance in the name of the Commonwealth, of a piece of land, in trust for the use of the inhabitants of Westmoreland county: Provided said piece of land be not situated further east than the nine-mile run, nor further west than Bushy run, further north than Loyalhanna, nor further south than five miles south of the old Pennsylvania road leading to Pittsburg; on which piece of ground said Commissioners shall erect a Court House and prison, sufficient to accommodate the public service of the said county.”

It was further directed that the sum to be raised for purchasing the ground and erecting the Court House and prison should not exceed £1,000. In the meantime a new road was proposed, and, in fact, already in use, between Fort Ligonier and Pittsburg, by way of Newtown (Greensburg). It was claimed, and rightly so, that this would be more direct than the Forbes or old Pennsylvania road. Of the new Trustees Benjamin Davis resided in Rostraver township, Michael Rugh in Hempfield, Hugh Martin in Mt. Pleasant, John Shields in Salem and John Pomroy in Derry township. It will thus be seen that three of the Trustees lived south of the Forbes road,

and that that part of Westmoreland, in and about Pittsburg, had no representative on the board. Within five weeks after being empowered, the Trustees viewed the territory prescribed by the General Assembly. A meeting was held by them at Hannastown on November 1 and 2, but no conclusion was reached. Another meeting took place in the second week of December, at Newtown (Greensburg), and that



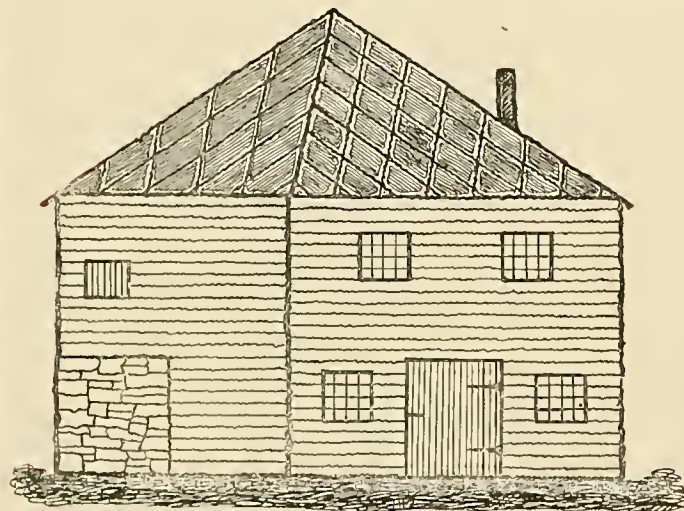
RESIDENCE OF MR. H. S. ACKERMAN.
Corner Vannear Avenue and Second Street.

locality determined upon for the seat of justice. Messrs. Shields and Pomroy, advocates of Hannastown, dissented, and thereafter did not act with the other Trustees. Messrs. Davis, Rugh and Martin, constituting a majority of the board, however, on December 10, entered into an agreement with Christopher Truby and William Jack, to which Ludwig Otterman subsequently became a party, for the purchase of two acres of land on which to erect public buildings. Although the details of the agreement were somewhat changed two days later, that date, viz: December 10, 1785, may be accepted as the exact or official time of the selection of Greensburg as the countyseat of Westmoreland.

First Court House and Jail at Greensburg.

No time was lost by the majority of the Trustees in beginning work on the public buildings. Philip Hartman was engaged, within a few days after the agreement for the purchase of the ground was concluded, to construct the foundation for the prison. Two months later, in February, 1786, one Anthony Altman entered into a compact to erect the Court House, the work being prosecuted under the direct supervision of Trustee Michael Rugh. Both the Court House and jail were embraced in one building, which was composed of logs and heavy boards or plank. The prison was in the rear part of the modest temple of justice and walled for a distance both below and above ground with stone. More than ordinary effort was made in pushing the

enterprise. By the end of June the public building or buildings, located on the same site as the present Court House, were completed and ready for occupancy. A formal report to that effect was made by the Trustees to the court, at the ensuing July Term, held at Hannastown. Taking cognizance of the same, the annexed certificate was formulated



FIRST COURT HOUSE AND JAIL AT GREENSBURG.
Erected 1786.

and signed by the Justices of the Peace named, who were likewise Judges of the Court of Common Pleas:

JUSTICES' CERTIFICATE.

We, the subscribers, Justices of the Peace, in and for the county of Westmoreland, upon receiving a written report from the Trustees of said county, informing us that a new Court House and prison was erected in Newtown, and that a number of other convenient buildings were also erected and open for entertainment, found that we were warranted by law in adjourning our courts to the said town; and being desirous as soon as possible, to take leave of the many inconveniences and difficulties which attend our situation at Hanna's town, as well as to avoid the cost for rent for a very uncomfortable house, in which we held our courts, we did, therefore, accordingly adjourn to the said town. And we do certify that we found a very comfortable, convenient Court House and prison, included in one commodious building, together with a number of large commodious houses, open for public entertainment, in which we enjoyed great satisfaction during our residence at court. We do further give it as our opinion that the situation is good, and possessed of every natural advantage that can contribute to the comfort and convenience of an inland town; that it is as nearly central to the body of the people as any spot that can be found possessed of the same advantages; that it lies in direct course between Ligonier and Pittsburgh, and will admit of the straightest and best road between those two places; that its situation is in the centre of the finest and wealthiest settlement in this western country, and cannot fail of being supplied with the greatest abundance, upon the most reasonable terms; in short, we think the said Trustees have done themselves honor in their choice and proceeding through the whole of this business. Given under our hands the 10th of August, 1786.

HUGH MARTIN,
RICHARD WILLIAMS,
JOHN MILLER,
ALEXANDER MITCHELL,

GEORGE WALLACE,
WILLIAM JACK,
CHRISTOPHER TRUBY,
GEORGE BAIRD.

It was not until January, 1787, however, that the first regular Quarter Sessions term of court was held in the new

Court House at Greensburg. The following gentlemen enjoyed the distinction of serving as jurors on that notable occasion:

Grand Jurors—David Duncan, James Carnahan, John Carnahan, John Sloan, Abraham Fulton, Charles Baird, William Best, Nathaniel McBrier, Joseph Mann, James Fulton, William Mann, Charles Johnston, Jacob Huffman, Samuel Sinclair, John Craig.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. ADA B. M'CULLOGH.
Corner West Otterman Street and Harrison Avenue.

Traverse Jurors—Alexander Craig, John McCreedy, Peter Cherry, John Giffen, John Buch, Philip Coons, Patrick Campbell, George Swan, Isaac McKendry, Robert McKee, John Anderson, James Waterson, Lawrence Irwin.

The term lasted for three days, and the compensation of the "good men and true" was five shillings per day. In its presentment, at that session, the grand jury reported that the jail was insufficient and lacking in security to hold prisoners.

The Trustees Superseded.

Very naturally the selection of Greensburg, as the countyseat, was followed by expressions and manifestations of dissatisfaction from the opposing elements on and north of the Forbes road and about Pittsburg. This culminated in a hostile Act of the General Assembly, passed December 27, 1786. By that measure the powers and authority given to the Trustees to purchase land and erect a Court House and jail were superseded "until the Legislature shall further and otherwise direct." Moreover, the Trustees were enjoined and required to exhibit their accounts, with proper vouchers, of all expenditures made by them, to William Moore, Charles Campbell, and James Bryson, who were authorized to pass upon said accounts and vouchers, which were also to be laid before the Justices and grand jury of the Court of Quarter

Sessions. William Moore, of the auditing commission, was a resident of Rostraver



BUSINESS BUILDING, OWNED BY MR. H. P. EICHER.
Main Street.

township; Charles Campbell, of Wheatfield township, (subsequently embraced in Indiana county); and James Bryson, of Pittsburg, making a majority from the unfriendly localities.

Some conception of the feeling prevailing, in the conflict over the location of the seat of justice, may be formed from a few extracts from communications to the Pittsburg Gazette, at that time the only journal published within the far-reaching borders of Westmoreland county. "A Friend of His Country," in a letter from Brush Creek, which was presented in the Gazette of October 26, 1786, among other things, said:

"It is well known that the establishment of our present seat of justice was not a hasty, rash or inconsiderate piece of business. Almost sixteen years elapsed since it first claimed the attention of government: it has been deliberately considered and cautiously conducted; the sense of the people have been generally and repeatedly known by petition, remonstrance, etc., and in consequence thereof no less than four different Acts of the Legislature have been passed to effect and complete its establishment. When we reflect upon the many evils which have resulted from the want of such establishment, I think we rather ought to congratulate ourselves on the event, and rest perfectly satisfied that it is at last fixed anywhere nearly central to the body of the people."

H. H. Brackenridge, a resident of Pittsburg, and one of the Representatives in the Legislature from Westmoreland, in an epistle bearing date of Philadelphia, December 16, 1786, produced in the Gazette of January 6, 1787, observed:

"A bill is published superseding the powers of the Trustees for building a Court House and jail in Greensburg. The object is to prevent any further expenditure of public money in public buildings at that place, inasmuch as the Court House and jail already erected are sufficient, at least, for a number of years. This appeared to us, the Representatives from Westmoreland, to be sufficient for the present. It must remain with future time to determine whether the seat of justice shall be removed or a new county erected on the Kiskiminnetas. The last, I believe, will be deemed most eligible."

In the issue of the Gazette of February 10, 1787, the following appeared from the pen of "A Friend of Westmoreland:"

"We find by Mr. Brackenridge's late publication that the seat of justice in this county yet remains an object of envy in our Legislature, as a bill is published superseding the



WESTMORELAND COUNTY HOME.

powers of the Trustees for building a Court House and jail in Greensburg. I wonder when we shall see an end of the cavillings on this subject, and the succession of ridiculous laws occasioned thereby! By the first law we find a number of Trustees appointed for erecting a Court House and prison, &c. By the second law we find their proceeding rejected, though perfectly legal, and the former repealed, and another set of Trustees appointed, with more extensive and conclusive powers. A third law approves and confirms their proceedings, and a fourth law supersedes their powers in the midst of the duty assigned them; and, to carry the farce a little further, I think the fifth law ought to amount to the total annihilation of the county."

Cost of the First Court House and Jail.

In conformity with the requirements of the Act of December 27, 1786, the Trustees submitted their accounts, with vouchers. The items were arranged in the following order by the auditors:

	£ s. d.
No. 1. Cash paid Peter Conch for shingle wood.....	7 6
2. Christian Myer 105 lbs. of iron at 8 pence per lb.....	3 10 0
3. Jacob Rugh for hauling boards and stones.....	4 7 6
4. Jacob Rugh for hauling 100 feet of boards.....	0 6 0
5. Philip Hartman for underpinning and stopping the cracks of plastering the gaol.....	13 10 0
6. Martin Short for attending masons at the publick buildings.....	1 6 3
7. Christopher Truby, Esq., for boards and plank for building Court House.....	7 18 9

8. Ferdinand Phinzy for a stove for publick use.....	14 00 0
9. Anthony Altman for his services in building the Court House.....	60 00 0
10. Conrad Hawk for services done at the publick buildings.....	3 15 0
11. Ludwick Oderman for lath, &c.....	1 10 0
12. Michael Truby for lath, &c., for publick buildings.....	2 16 9
13. Thomas Williams for 200 feet of boards.....	8 6 8
14. Johannes Silveys for blacksmith work.....	8 16 2
15. Peter Rugh for hauling timber and stones.....	2 5 0
16. Samuel Sloane for a lock for the gaol door.....	0 4 6
17. William Stewart for making a pipe and door for a stove.....	1 17 6
18. Daniel Williams for lime.....	1 10 0
19. Patrick Campbell for 14 lbs. nails at 11 pence lb.....	6 12 0
20. Adam Bandhiefer for carrying the before-mentioned nails and a keg.....	1 16 0
21. Joseph Cook for 52½ lbs iron for the publick use.....	1 15 0
22. Daniel Dorney for making sashes for windows, tables and benches for the Court House.....	3 12 8
23. Philip Altman for making a floor in the Court House.....	2 19 5
24. Johannes Saltman for quarrying stones.....	0 18 0
25. Michael Truby for plank to floor the gaol.....	1 2 0
26. Michael Rugh, 81 panes of glass furnished for the Court House ½ pence per pane.....	4 18 0
27. Robert McConnell for 76 lbs. iron at 8 pence per lb.....	2 10 8
28. Ludwick Custard for lime for the Court House.....	1 12 0
29. Benjamin Davis amt. as Trustee for the county of Westmoreland.....	21 00 0
30. Michael Rugh amount as ditto.....	8 17 6
31. Michael Rugh superintending the building of the Court House.....	22 00 0
32. Hugh Martin amount as Trustee.....	5 10 0
33. John Purney's amount as Trustee.....	6 00 0
34. John Shields' amount as Trustee.....	0 10 0
Total.....	£189 8 7

Annexed is the account of Michael Rugh against the County of Westmore-

land for his service in the capacity of a Trustee:

		£ s. d.
1785		
Oct. 20.	To 3 days viewing the limit of ground pointed out by Act of Assembly.....	1 10 0
Nov. 22.	To 1 day at meeting at Hannah's Town in order to conclude about the countyseat.....	0 10 0
Dec.	To 4 days when the countyseat was concluded on by the Trustees and agreeing with a man to build the prison.....	2 00 0
1786		
Feb.	To 3 days employing a man to build the Court House and giving orders to the Commissioners to lay the tax for destroying the Publick Buildings.....	1 10 0
April 8.	To 1 day viewing and giving orders for hauling stones for to underpin gaol.....	0 10 0
July Term	To 1 day making report to the Court the Publick Buildings were ready for them.....	0 10 0
Oct. Term	To 1 day attending to laying out publick lots and 1 day selling said lots and 7-6 paid for erior to sell the lots.....	1 7 6
1787		
May 31.	To 2 days sitting with the gentlemen appointed by Act of Assembly for that purpose.....	1 0 0
		£ 8 17 6

Subjoined is the account of Benjamin Davis as Trustee appointed by Act of Assembly:

		£ s. d.
1785		
Oct. 20.	To 5 days viewing the limit of ground pointed out by Assembly.....	2 10 0
Nov. 2.	To 2 days at a meeting at Hannah's Town in order to conclude about the countyseat.....	1 00 0
Dec.	To 6 days when the countyseat was concluded on by the Trustees and engaging a man to build the Prison.....	3 00 0

1786 Feb. To 4 days engineering and drawing articles with a man to build the Court House and giving orders to the Commissioners for to lay the tax for to defray expenses of the Publick Buildings..... 2 00 0

April 8. To 2 days viewing and preparing and giving orders for hauling stones for to underpin the gaol..... 1 00 0

July Term To 3 days making report to the Court that the Publick Building was ready for them..... 1 10 0

Oct. Term To 3 days attending the laying of lots on the Publick Ground and draughting the same for their use. 4 10 0

1787 May 31. To 3 days sitting with the gentlemen appointed by Act of Assembly 1 10 0

June 29. To 1 day at another settlement..... 1 00 0

1784 Dr. for acting in conjunction with the former Trustees..... 1 10 0

£ 21 00 0



PROPERTIES OF MRS. ROSE A. BLYTHE.
Maple Avenue.

Below is the account of Michael Rugh for superintending the building of the Court House:

	£ s d.
To 1 day when cutting wood for the prison....	0 10 0
1 day laying the foundation.....	0 10 0
5 days hauling the logs.....	2 10 0
1 day employing the Masons and materials	0 10 0
1 day getting lime.....	0 10 0
To 3 days attending the Commissioners getting orders at different times.....	1 10 0
1 day providing the shingle trees.....	0 10 0
3 days providing the iron for the hinges, etc.....	1 10 0
1 day providing nails.....	0 10 0
1 day employing a Joiner for to make Tables and Window Sashes.....	0 10 0
11 days attending on the Treasurer to receive money.....	5 10 0
2 days getting the Collector for to get money.....	1 00 0
1 day providing stones.....	0 10 0
1 day laying the floors.....	0 10 0
2 days getting boards.....	1 00 0
4 days getting the hands for hauling logs and boards.....	2 00 0
4 days settling with the workmen.....	2 00 0
	£22 00 0

In its report the auditing commission surcharged the Trustees, for various reasons, with £65..14..4. The accounts and exceptions were laid before the court and grand jury on July 12, 1787, but the Trustees permitted the proceeding to pass without protest or being present.

Superseding Act Repealed.

Much complaint was made by the inhabitants in and about Pittsburg of the long distance they were compelled to travel to court, both at Hannastown and Greensburg. The active opposition, in various forms, of such men as Brackenridge and

Brison (residents of Pittsburg) to the action of the Trustees, in the selection of Greensburg as the countyseat, and the erection of public buildings there, it is believed, had for its main purpose the paving of the way for a new county. Such a result followed on September 24, 1788, when Allegheny county was organized. The territory for the same was set off from Westmoreland.



RESIDENCE OF MR. CHARLES H. FOGG.
North Main Street.

In less than five months thereafter, February 14, 1789, the superseding Act was repealed and the Trustees directed to proceed in the matter of providing a substantial and permanent Court House and prison. It was recognized in the preamble to the repealing Act that the log and plank structure was merely intended for temporary purposes, and that only about one-fifth of the sum originally levied for the express purpose of the purchase of ground and construction of public buildings, viz: £1,000, had been expended. The remainder was available for the proposed new and more pretentious buildings now authorized.

Sale of the Public Lots.

A scope of two acres, of course, was more than was needed for the county buildings. However, it was evidently the original purpose of the Trustees, as well as the landowners who virtually donated the ground, (the consideration of five shillings was merely nominal), that the county property should consist of an entire town square. The opposition element maintained that the Trustees were not empowered to purchase more land than an amount necessary on which to erect public buildings. Desiring, no doubt, to minimize all cause for contention, and have the cost of the structure fall as lightly as possible on the taxpayers of the county, the Trustees decided to sell

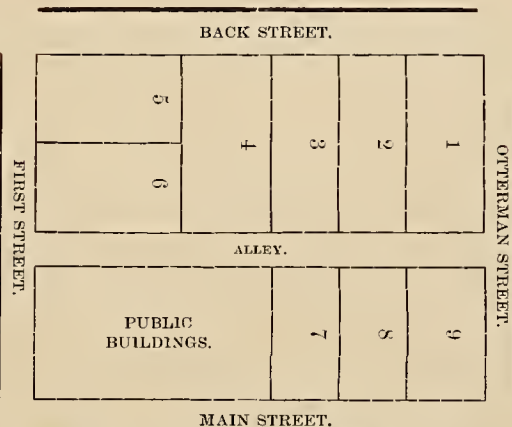


BARCLAY OFFICE BUILDING.
Main Street.

the surplus ground. The two acres were divided into ten lots by Benjamin Davis, one of the Trustees, who was also a civil engineer. On a day in October, 1786, duly announced, nine of the lots were disposed of at public sale. Below are given the names of the purchasers, with the amounts for which the lots were sold, together with a computation of the sums realized in dollars and cents, based on the modern value of the pound (\$4.85):

No. of Lot.	Purchaser's Name.	Amount of Sale.	
1.	Michael Rugh.....	£ 3 40 0	\$14.55
2.	Peter Rugh.....	2 9 6	12.00
3.	Dewalt Macklin.....	4 6 0	20.86
4.	Peter Rugh.....	5 5 4	25.54
5.	Isaac Wyely.....	7 5 0	35.16
6.	William Beuck.....	8 15 0	42.44
7.	Michael Huffnagle, Esq.....	9 1 0	43.89
8.	Joseph Cook.....	3 00 0	14.55
9.	Jacob Rugh.....		
		£52 2 10	\$252.88

After the sale of the public lots, there was some discussion as to whether the authority vested in the Trustees warranted them in taking



such action. To remove all doubt, however, as to the future and make the titles adequate and secure, a supplemental measure was enacted by the General Assembly on March 21, 1795. It provided that the sale of sundry lots of ground, made by the Trustees appointed by the Act of September 13, 1785, "be, and the said sales are hereby declared to be valid

for the conveyance of the estate said to be granted by said sales, as if by the said recited Act the said Trustees had been authorized to sell any part of the piece of ground aforesaid to private individuals."

Greensburg During the Whiskey Insurrection.

Greensburg was affected by the uprising in resistance to the Federal exise law, or as it is historically known, the Whiskey Insurrection, in 1794. Although there were few or no persons in direct or active sympathy with the movement, in the town, a number of daring characters in Hempfield township were in full accord with the insurgents. All through the southern section of the county, from the Laurel Hill to the Forks of the Yough, a still more violent spirit prevailed.

Greensburg being the seat of justice, where the public records were kept, and her citizens not evincing a disposition to join or aid the insurrection, but rather to deprecate it, an ugly feeling was developed against the county town. Threats of the organization of banded parties to march to Greensburg for the purpose of committing outrages upon individuals, mutilating or destroying the public records, and burning property, were given currency. So repeatedly and persistently were these reports circulated, that they produced a feeling of alarm, not only in the town, but, also, among law-abiding citizens throughout the county. Accord-



RESIDENCE OF MR. J. F. ZIMMERMAN.
North Maple Avenue.

ingly, toward the latter part of May, the subjoined appeal, signed by prominent citizens of various sections of the county, was made to Gen. William Jack, the militia leader for Westmoreland:

SIR:--As attempts have been made to raise an armed force to disturb the peace of this County and prevent the due Execution of the Laws, and an attack has been premeditated to be made on the Town of

Greensburgh, we have thought proper to address you as the Commanding Officer of the Militia on a subject so distressing to the minds of all Well disposed Citizens. If such proceedings are not checked in their first Career, it is more easy to imagine than to point out the Calamities which may be the Consequence. We would be happy to have it in our power to say that the disposition to submit to the Laws was so prevalent that any extraordinary exertion of Government for that purpose and protecting well disposed Citizens in the Enjoyment of their Rights and Liberties was unnecessary. Recent examples convince us to the Contrary. Until that protection can be afforded, we are of opinion that besides Voluntary associations among such as are well inclined, a Small corps of Militia Volunteers, embodied by your direction, to be kept in service so long as you shall judge the exigency of the case may require, will Essentially contribute to maintain the peace, and under the Civil authority to assist in Suppressing Riots and traitorous designs. From the tenor and sentiments manifested by the Executive, we make no doubt that your Conduct in Calling such a body of men into service for a short time will meet with the most unequivocal approbation, and the Expense be De-frayed out of the publick Treasury. We add to this our personal assurance of your being re-im-bursed any expenses which may be incurred by you as to the pay and Rations of the officers and men whom you may think proper to call out for the Salutory purposes above mentioned.

We are, Sir, your Humble Serv'ts,

WM. FINDLEY,
SAM'L PORTER,
WM. TODD,
THOMAS HAMILTON,
JAMES GUTHRIE,
JAMES M'KELLIP,
JOHN HUTCHESON,
PETER TITTLE,
JOHN DENNISTON,
GEORGE SMITH,
ROBERT BOLE,
JNO. BRANDEN,
DAVID BEANS,
CONRAD COLMER,
JAMES HILL,

TIMOTHY BUELL,
JOHN PARKER,
PETER CLASSON,
JOHN CONTZ,
JOHN KIRKPATRICK,
CH'R TRUBY,
ROBT WILLIAMS,
ROBT TAYLOR,
SIMEON HOVEY,
JAMES PERRY,
WM. MAGHEE,
FREDERICK ROHRER,
TERRENCE CAMPBELL,
JOS. COOR,
NATHAN WILLIAMS.



NULL HOUSE, PROPERTY OF LEVI PORTZER.
Corner Main and West Otterman Streets.



WESTMORELAND NATIONAL BANK BUILDING.
Main Street.

On the night of July 26, the post-boy, en route from Pittsburg to Philadelphia, was attacked by two men, a short distance from Greensburg, and the United States mail rifled. The purpose of the men was to secure the letters being forwarded by the United States officials in and about Pittsburg to the Federal authorities in Philadelphia. In this they were successful. All mail matter not referring to the insurrection was left undisturbed. The possession of the official reports by the insurgents caused the writers thereof to quickly and secretly leave Pittsburg and remain in concealment for some time. Subsequent investigation developed the fact that the mail robbers were John Mitchell and William Bradford, both residents of Washington county. Mitchell was arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced to be executed. Bradford was indicted. Both, however, were pardoned after the insurrection subsided.

The action taken by Gen. William Jack, regarding the appeal made to him by certain inhabitants of the county, will be found in the annexed letter written by Gen. Jack to Governor Mifflin:

GREENSBURGH, Sept'r 22d, 1794.

SIR:—I think it my duty to transmit your Excellency an account of the situation of this County at the present crisis, and the motives which induced me to call into service a small corps of Militia, to assist in preserving Peace, and warding off any attack on the County Town, Where the public Records are kept, and in which the adjoining Counties are interested as well as this.

Until the Disturbances took place, soon after the arrival of the Federal Marshall, the people of this County, altho' generally averse to the Duty on Spirits, thought very little about it, and I have reason to presume many of the principal Distillers would have entered rather than subjected themselves to a prosecution, the flame was soon communicated, and many from different views rather encouraged opposition than otherwise, whilst those who failed of other reasons made use of threats, to accomplish their views. The enclosed paper, sent to a Distiller in this county, shows the mode of Invitation from Washington; but there is reason to suppose that open as well as disguised menaces of burning, &c., had the greatest effect in collecting the small number that went from Westmoreland to Braddock's field.

The vigorous measures proposed by Government, as well as the just fears of all good citizens, and the danger to persons and property, all had their effect in allaying the ferment. The people, however, revolted at the Idea of submitting to the Law complained of, as settled with the commissioners met at Pittsburg. Considerable pains was used at this place to pro-

cure the signing required, and I firmly believe but for the steady countenance and determination of a few among us, no signing at all would have taken place. The Germans who are thick settled in this Neighborhood, being from ignorance of our Language, more easily imposed upon, were extremely unwilling, and even shewed a disposition which I did not expect from those habits of Industry to which they are used.

On the 11th inst., the day fixed, only about 80 came forward to sign out of several hundreds met; frequent attempts were made by some to

intimidate and create mischief; at length some of the ringleaders attempted to snatch the papers in order to destroy them, but were prevented. Those who were known to have signed have been more or less threatened ever since, by a set of worthless fellows.

An association was set on foot in the Town, the 13th Instant, for protection and mutual safety, and was generally agreed to even by some of those who did not like the declaration, to submit to the Laws. On the 16th, being assured of an attempt, set on foot by a Lieut. Straw, to raise a party to come to Town with the pretense of getting the papers, I thought it most advisable to issue a Warrant, and Committed him to Goal.

Being joined by a Number of friends to peace from the country, I went with a party of about 50 men to a House where the said Straw's party was to collect, about a mile from Town, Where we found about 30 persons who Declared in favor of peace, and not finding some of those among them who had been the most active, we thought it best to be satisfied with their assurances.

To put a Check to further Combinations of this kind, it was deemed expedient (on a consultation among the citizens of the Town, and some who had come from the country, Particularly Mr. Findley and Mr. Porter) to have a party raised to be ready on any Emergency. In consequence I have given Instructions for calling out a Lieut. and 30 Volunteers Militia to rendezvouze here this week. The number to be augmented, if occasion requires; but I hope this will not be necessary—the more especially as the Troops ordered by the Executive are now supposed to be on their March.

For your Excellency's satisfaction I transmit you a copy of the Letter from the Citizens to me, and at the same time request your sanction to the measure I have undertaken.

I am, Sir, your Excellency's Most obed. Humble Serv't,
WM. JACK.

The subsequent course pursued by the citizens of this locality, in connection with the effort to re-establish respect for the law and restore order, is set forth in the following:

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Greensburgh and Township of Hempfield, in the county of Westmoreland, on Wednesday, the 22d of October, 1794, convened



RESIDENCE OF MR. JOHN W. SCOTT.
East Pittsburg Street.

for the purpose of giving to the deputies who are to meet at Parkinson's Ferry on the 24th inst., such unequivocal assurances of their disposition for submission to the laws, as would enable them to propose and adopt such measures on their behalf as would be decisive in manifesting their sincere regret for and abhorrence of the late violent measures, and of their firm determination to support and yield obedience to the constitutional laws of their country. The following resolutions were proposed and adopted:

1. *Resolved, as the sense of this meeting,* That it is the duty of every



RESIDENCE AND OFFICE OF DR. T. P. COLE.
South Pennsylvania Avenue.

good citizen to yield obedience to the existing laws of his country.

2. *Resolved,* That we discountenance all illegal acts of violence, from whatever motive, and that for redress of grievances, the privilege and right of the citizen is to petition and remonstrate if necessary.

3. *Resolved,* That we will support the civil authority and all officers in the legal exercise of their respective duties, and assist in securing for legal trial, all offenders against the laws, when called upon.

4. *Resolved,* That the citizens of this town and township will give no opposition to the opening an office of Inspection therein, should the same be contemplated by the government, and that we will use our endeavors to remove improper prejudices, and recommend a peaceable and general submission.

5. *Resolved,* That a copy of the preceding resolutions be given to one or more of the deputies for the town or township who are to meet at Parkinson's ferry, on Friday, the 24th inst., together with a copy of the assurance paper, signed by the citizens of this meeting, in order that the same may be laid before the members of the said committee, and that another copy be made out for publication in the *Pittsburgh Gazette*, and that the same be attested by the chairman and clerk of this meeting.

A true copy.

DAVID MARCHAND, *Chairman.*

Attest:

THOMAS HAMILTON, *Clerk.*

We, the undersigned citizens of the town of Greensburgh & township of Hempfield, in the county of Westmoreland, being desirous of living in peace and of adopting such measures as appear to us most likely to ensure the same in future, as well as to promote the real interests of the country, do severally promise, engage and certify that we will support, when legally called upon, the civil authority and all officers in the due execution of their respective powers under the laws of the land, and give our assistance in bringing to legal trial all offenders against the laws; and further, that if an office of inspection for the entering of stills, &c., is opened in the said town or township or in any other part of the same county, that we will give all necessary support in protecting the same against violence; and such of us as are distillers and design continuing in the same employment promise to enter the same

when such office shall be opened, and that we will use our endeavors to defeat all combinations having for object the disturbance of the public peace and opposition to the laws aforesaid. In witness we have bereunto set our hands this twenty-second day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four.

A true copy.

DAVID MARCHAND, *Chairman.*

Attest: THOMAS HAMILTON, *Clerk.*



HOTEL STARK, PROPERTY OF MR. C. H. STARK.
Corner West Otterman Street and Harrison Avenue.

N. B.—The above assurance or certificate was signed in the course of the evening by four hundred and twenty citizens, and it is expected the same, or something similar, will be entered into and subscribed in the other townships of the county of Westmoreland; in some parts of the same a similar assurance has been given, and in all it is expected a compliance will take place immediately.

On the return homeward starting from Pittsburg, the New Jersey and Pennsylvania divisions of the army, sent against the insurgents, pursued two routes. Some of the troops traversed the southern section of this county. The first division, embracing the Pennsylvania cavalry, and acting as an escort to Governor Mifflin, passed through Greensburg, on Thursday, November 20. On the preceding night this part of the army encamped two miles west of Greensburg, at a place designated as the "Dutchman's."

Forty Fort Fayette garrison soldiers, under command of an ensign, reached Greensburg on the evening of November 27, from Pittsburg, with seventeen prisoners. Of those in custody, nine were citizens of Washington county, six of Allegheny, one of Fayette and one of Ohio county, Va. On their arrival, the prisoners were lodged in the county jail, where three other persons suspected of being in sympathy with the insurgents, were already incarcerated. On the morning of November 29, the twenty accused persons were brought forth, paraded about the streets of Greensburg through mud and snow, and delivered into the charge of Major James Durham, in command

of a detachment of cavalry. Subsequently the suspects were started on a very weary march to Philadelphia, each prisoner on foot between two of the guard, with drawn swords, on horseback. It may be here added that, after being imprisoned in Philadelphia for months, some for longer and some

shorter periods, all were acquitted or discharged, there being no incriminating evidence against them.

There is a local tradition that Gen. George Washington, who was then President of the United States, visited Greensburg during the insurrection. It is founded, however, on error. President Washington started for Western Pennsylvania, on that occasion, but proceeded no farther than Bedford, thence returning to the seat of government. United States District Attorney William Rawle and the United States Commissioners, however, made their headquarters at Greensburg for a time during the troublous days of 1794. Disorderly persons, one night, threw a stone through a second-story window of the hotel where the Federal officials were lodged. The guilty parties were arrested and punished.

In the year named, when the fury of the insurrection broke forth, there were sixteen distilleries in Hempfield township. A number of them were situated in the vicinity, but only one, so far as diligent search reveals, was located within the limits of Greensburg. That one was "on the square of the public spring" (the southeast corner of West Pittsburg Street and Maple Avenue). By whom the distillery was owned in 1794 is not known to the writer. In 1799 and 1800, however, it was the property of John and James McCaskey. In addition to two stills it embraced "a complete



RESIDENCE OF HON. E. E. ROBBINS.
North Main Street.

brewery." The main building was a stone structure, and, connected with it, were several substantial outbuildings.

One morning in the middle of February, 1799, the citizens of Greensburg were much disturbed by grave apprehensions. They feared that the spirit of the insurrection was about to be revived. Between midnight and early morning a whiskey

pole had been erected in front of the house of John Wells, the excise officer, who resided on North Main Street. On the pole was a placard containing the following:

"Tom the Tinker, author. Liberty and no excise and no stamp act. Mr. Wells, you are a cheating — — — (very vile epithet). Huzza for liberty and no excise and no stamp act. This pole is erected by Tom the Tinker, and whoever cuts it down or demolishes it, shall have his house torn down and demolished. The Father is gone to the Grand Father, and will come again and bring with him twenty thousand men. In the year 1799."

Leading citizens of the town, after careful consideration, on the morning of its discovery, determined to cut the pole down, which was promptly done. A rigid investigation as to the authors of the outrage was likewise instituted. Persons who had been in the vicinity or passed Mr. Wells' house, at various times up until midnight, came forward and stated that the pole had not yet been erected at that hour. The inquiry revealed the fact that the guilty parties were not residents of the town, but had come from a distance. No arrests were made but a vigilant watch was kept by citizens at night for several weeks thereafter to prevent the threatened destruction of property. Persons were much perplexed to construe or advance a satisfactory theory as to the significance of the expression: "The Father is gone to the Grand



RESIDENCE OF MR. EDWARD DONOHOE.
North Maple Avenue.



THE KEAGGY THEATRE BUILDING.
West Otterman Street.

Father and will come again and bring with him twenty thousand men." By some it was thought to imply that international complications were being fomented, and that British assistance or the aid of French revolutionists, active shortly before, had been solicited and promised for a new uprising. Although no overt or open acts of a lawless character occurred, it was some time before the disquietude of the citizens of Greensburg was entirely dispelled.

Greensburg Incorporated as a Borough.

Perhaps the most notable period in Greensburg's history, in the way of advancement, was 1799. In that year, so close to the dawn of the new century, the town was incorporated as a borough, the first newspaper was established, a handsome new Court House and jail were in course of erection, and a public market house built. The Act of the General Assembly conferring upon the countyseat the dignity of a borough, was approved February 9, 1799. In recent years this statute has been more commonly referred to as "the old charter." It embodies so much of historic interest, that it is reproduced below, in full, from a certified transcript of the original Act:

"THE OLD CHARTER.

AN ACT to erect the town of Greenesburgh, in the county of Westmoreland, into a borough.

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the town

of Greensburgh, in the county of Westmoreland, shall be, and the same is hereby, erected into a borough, which shall be called the borough of Greensburgh, and shall be comprised within the following boundaries, to wit: Beginning at a white oak corner in William Jack's land, by a line running north twenty degrees east thirty-three perches, to William Best's land; thence west along said line of William Best one hundred and seven perches and a half, to a post on George Oderman's



RESIDENCE OF MR. SAMUEL ALWINE, SR.
Corner East Pittsburg Street and Alwine Avenue.

land; thence by land of said George Oderman and Back-street south sixteen degrees east twenty-eight perches, to a post adjoining said Oderman's land and a lot of William Barnes; thence south seventy-four degrees west twelve perches, to a post adjoining said Oderman's land and William Barnes' lot; thence by land of said George Oderman south sixteen degrees east fourteen perches to a post; thence south seventy-four degrees west twenty-four perches to a post; thence by land of said George Oderman south sixteen degrees east thirty-three perches to a post; thence north seventy-four degrees east eleven perches to a post, adjoining James Watterson's land; thence by land of the said James Watterson and James Guthrie south sixteen degrees east eighty-eight perches to a post; thence by land of James Guthrie south eighty-two degrees east forty-four perches to a post; thence by land of Robert Williams, Christopher Truby and William Jack, north thirteen degrees east one hundred and forty-one perches, to the place of beginning.

SECTION II. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the freemen of the said borough, who shall have resided within the same six months, and shall in other respects be entitled to vote for Members of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, shall, on the first Monday of May next, and on that day in every year thereafter, meet together at the court-house in the said borough, and then and there choose, by ballot, two reputable freeholders, inhabitants of said borough, to be Burgesses, and three reputable persons to serve as Assistants, for advising, aiding and assisting the said Burgesses in the execution of the powers and authorities hereby given them; and also to elect a High Constable and a



BUSINESS BUILDING OF MESSRS. SHIELDS, PAINTER & SLOAN.
West Second Street.

Town Clerk; all and every of which persons shall be residents in the said borough, and shall be duly qualified to elect as aforesaid, and the person which shall have the greatest number of votes for Burgess shall be called Chief Burgess.

SECTION III. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the election for the officers aforesaid shall be holden in the following manner, to wit: the Constable of the town of Greensburgh for the present year, and the High Constable so as aforesaid elected or appointed, in the manner hereinafter mentioned in every succeeding year, shall give notice of such election at least six days before the time appointed for holding the same, by advertisement set up at six or more of the most public places within the said borough; and at the election to be holden the present year, the Town Constable and two reputable freeholders, to be chosen by the electors of the said borough for that purpose, and at every succeeding election the Burgesses and Assistants shall hold the said election, receive and count the ballots, and declare the persons duly elected; whereupon duplicate certificates of the persons so elected shall be signed in the present year by the two freeholders chosen as aforesaid, and in every succeeding election by the said Burgesses, one whereof shall be transmitted to the Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions of the county, within twenty days after the said election, and the other filed among the records of the corporation; and at any election held as above directed, should the two persons highest in the vote for Burgesses have an equal number of votes, the next Court of Quarter Sessions shall declare who shall be the Chief Burgess; and if it shall at any time so happen, through neglect or otherwise, that no election shall be holden on that day, or in the mode herein prescribed, it shall be lawful for the court of Quarter Sessions, and it is hereby required forthwith to appoint the Burgesses, Assistants, High Constable and Town Clerk aforesaid, who shall thereupon be fully invested with the power and authorities to their respective offices appertaining, and the Burgesses and other officers so appointed or elected shall hold and execute their respective offices until the first Monday in May next ensuing their appointment or election, or until others shall be duly elected or appointed in their stead.

SECTION IV. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Burgesses and Assistants so chosen, or a majority of them, shall have full power and authority to make such ordinances, rules and regulations, as may be necessary for improving and keeping in order the streets and



FISHER HOUSE, CONDUCTED BY MR. JAMES B. BORLIN.
Corner Main and West Pittsburg Streets.

alleys within the said borough, and removing nuisances or obstructions therefrom, and the same to annul, alter or make anew, as occasion may require, and also to assess, levy and collect a tax for the said purposes and shall have all other powers necessary for the well ordering and better government of the said borough: Provided, That the said ordinances, rules or regulations, shall not be repugnant to the constitution and laws of this commonwealth, And provided also, That no tax shall be laid by them, in any one year, to exceed one cent in the dollar on the valuation of taxable property taken from the last assessment, until the same is agreed to by a majority of the electors at the town-meeting assembled for that purpose, called together by the said Burgesses and Assistants, or by a request in writing of at least six of the inhabitants of said borough, duly qualified to elect as aforesaid, to the said Burgesses, who shall require the High Constable to give five days' notice of such intended town-meeting, by advertisements fixed up in not less than six of the most public places, within the said borough, notifying the time, place, and object of the said town-meeting; and all taxes which may be assessed or laid within the said borough shall, as near as the same is practicable, be conformable to the laws for raising county rates and levies.

SECTION V. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Burgesses and freemen, duly qualified to elect as aforesaid, and their successors forever hereafter, shall be one body politic and corporate, in and by the name of "The Burgesses and Inhabitants of the borough of Greensburgh, in the county of Westmoreland," shall have perpetual succession, and they and their successors, by the name of the Burgesses and inhabitants of the borough of Greensburgh, shall, at all times hereafter,



RESIDENCE OF MR. EDWARD WHITFIELD.
Walnut Avenue.

be persons able and capable in law to have, get, receive and possess lands, tenements, rents, liberties, jurisdictions, franchises and hereditaments, to them and their successors, in fee simple, or for term of lives, life, years, or otherwise; and also goods and chattels, and other things of what nature or kind soever; and also to give, grant, let, sell and assign the same lands, tenements, hereditaments, goods and chattels, and to do and execute all other things about the same, by the name aforesaid; and they shall forever be persons able and capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, and answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended, in all or any courts within this commonwealth, in all manner of actions, suits, complaints, pleas, causes, and matters whatsoever; and that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said Burgesses and inhabitants aforesaid, and their successors forever hereafter, to have and to use one common seal, for sealing all business whatsoever touching the said corporation, and the same from time to time, at their will, to change and alter; and the said Burgesses and Assistants shall have full power to appoint such other officers within the said borough, as shall be necessary to carry into complete effect the provisions of this act.

SECTION VI. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Burgesses and Assistants to lay off a portion or piece of ground, on the square of the said borough, lying south and east of the public gaol, sufficient in extent for the purpose of erecting a market-house; and it shall and may be lawful to extend the said market-house eight feet on the street leading to Pittsburgh, if it be found necessary: Provided always, That eight feet at least shall be left between the said market-house and the public buildings.

SECTION VII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That if any person, or inhabitant of the said borough, and duly qualified to elect as aforesaid, shall be elected to the office of Burgess, and, having notice of his election, shall refuse to undertake and execute that office, every person so refusing shall forfeit and pay a fine of twenty dollars; and if any person, duly qualified as aforesaid, shall be duly elected to any other office in the said borough, created by this act, and, having notice of his election, shall refuse to undertake and execute the duties of that office, every person so refus-

ing shall forfeit and pay the sum of ten dollars; which fines and forfeitures, and all others in pursuance of this act, or of the bye-laws of the said Burgesses and inhabitants, shall be recovered before the acting Burgess, or any Justice of the Peace of that county, for the use of the said Corporation; and in any such case of refusal, the acting Burgesses shall issue



RESIDENCE OF MRS. J. W. MOORE.
West Otterman Street.

their process direct to the High Constable, requiring him to hold an election for the choice of some other fit person or persons, in the stead of such as shall refuse: Provided always, That if any person or persons shall conceive him or themselves aggrieved by the judgment of the Burgesses, or any Justice, by virtue of this act, he or they may appeal to the next county court of Common Pleas, who shall, on the petition of the party, take such order therein, as to them shall appear just and reasonable, and the same shall be conclusive to all parties.

SECTION VIII. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the Chief Burgess shall take and subscribe an oath or affirmation before one of the Associate Judges, or a Justice of the Peace for the county of Westmoreland, to support the constitution of the United States and of this state, and on oath or affirmation well and truly to execute the office of Chief Burgess of the borough of Greengsburgh and when so qualified, he shall administer an oath or affirmation to the other Burgess, Assistants, High Constable and Town Clerk, in manner and form aforesaid, before they shall enter on the duties of their respective offices.

CADWALADER EVANS, Junior,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

ROBERT HARE,
Speaker of the Senate.

Approved February the ninth, 1799.

THOMAS MIFFLIN,
Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Although the Act of incorporation was approved February 9, 1799, a borough government was not organized or inaugurated until the first Monday in May, of that year. On that day, in conformity with the law, the qualified electors



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
Corner South Main and West Third Streets.
First Building, 1816; 2d, 1848; 3d, 1883.

of the town, of whom there were 82, met at the Court House and bestowed the honor of being the first officials of the new borough upon the gentlemen named:

Chief Burgess—George Armstrong, Esq.

Burgess—Simon Drum.

Assistant Burgesses—Jacob Hugus, Robert Cooper, Thomas McGuire.

Town Clerk—John Morrison.

High Constable—Alexander Stewart.

Biographical sketches of the men who were deemed worthy of this mark of confidence from their fellow-citizens, a century ago, are subjoined:

GEORGE ARMSTRONG enlisted as a private in the Revolutionary war in that famous Westmoreland organization, the Eighth Regiment, Continental Line: subsequently he became a Sergeant in Capt. Nehemiah Stokely's company, and served throughout the war. He was Inspector of the First Brigade, Thirteenth Division, Pennsylvania militia, with the rank of Major, in the war of 1812. Major Armstrong was admitted as an attorney at the Westmoreland Bar on March 11, 1793. He acquired a large practice, especially in the line of conveyancing and titles. From November, 1819, to October, 1822, John Y. Barclay, Esq., was associated with him as a partner. In 1815 Major Armstrong was one of the Directors of the Westmoreland Bank. He was married to Anna, a daughter of Dr. John McDowell, of Allegheny county. While Major Armstrong enjoyed the distinction of first Chief Burgess of Greensburg borough, he resided on the northwest side of First Street, now West Pittsburg Street. In February, 1826, he removed to Pittsburg, where he spent the balance of his life. Before departing he transferred his papers and business to James Findley, Esq.

SIMON DRUM located within the limits of Westmoreland county as early as 1777. He was one of the first residents of Greensburg, or when it became the countyseat. In 1790 Mr. Drum purchased the lot on the southwestern corner of Main and West Pittsburg Streets, known as No. 58 in the



RESIDENCE OF MRS. ELIZABETH MEANOR.
West Otterman Street.

original plan of the town (now the site of the Fisher House) from the first owner, Christopher Truby. He there erected a very substantial stone building (part of which is still embodied in the existing structure), and, for a number of years, conducted a noted and successful inn or tavern. Mr. Drum was a public-spirited and enterprising citizen. Together with the members of his family, he took an active interest in promoting the religious and educational welfare of the young town. He died October 23, 1822, aged 71 years.

JACOB HUGUS was of Huguenot descent. He settled in Greensburg several years before its incorporation. Mr. Hugus was a clockmaker by occupation. As an evidence of his excellent skill in that line, it may be stated that some of the quaint old clocks manufactured by him, one hundred years ago, are still owned by citizens of Greensburg and keeping correct time. Although not possessed of an advanced education, Mr. Hugus was a man of exceptional intelligence and mechanical ingenuity. Besides making clocks, for a number of years he also manufactured carding machines. In 1815 he invented and patented a greatly improved wool and cotton carding machine, which effected a much-desired saving in the down and fine particles of the wool and cotton during the process of cleaning. A number of other notable mechanical devices were designed by him. Mr. Hugus

erected the first steam mill (so far as known) west of the Allegheny mountains. It was completed and put in operation in the autumn of 1822. Not only was it a grist mill, but in it were also carried on carding, spinning, weaving, fulling and dyeing. The mill was located one mile southeast of

Greensburg on the site of what is now known as "Kistler's mill." In 1798 Mr. Hugus owned the lot on the northwest corner of West Pittsburg Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. He died January 28, 1835, in the 67th year of his age.

ROBERT COOPER was the only resident master carpenter in Greensburg in 1799. At that time his place of residence was on East Otterman Street, south of or "opposite the Borough School House." Mr. Cooper was a private in Capt. Joseph Markle's troop of Light Dragoons, attached to the northwestern army, under command of Gen. William Henry Harrison, in the war of 1812. Some time after the close of that struggle, he removed to North Huntingdon township, where he resided until his death, February 7, 1827.

THOMAS MCGUIRE was a citizen of Greensburg more than ten years prior to its incorporation as a borough. He was among the early merchants of the place. In 1799 Mr. McGuire was engaged as an inn-keeper, his tavern being located in "Watterson's meadow," which was on the west side of the town in the locality now known as Pennsylvania Avenue. He was one of the Trustees named in the Act of Assembly incorporating the Greensburg Academy in 1810. During



BUSINESS BUILDING OF MR. JOHN F. MITINGER.
Main Street.

the years 1814, 1815 and 1816 he held the office of County Treasurer, that official then being elected annually by the County Commissioners. Mr. McGuire died in 1817.

JOHN MORRISON was a leading merchant in Greensburg prior to and for a number of years after the incorporation of

the borough. He was Prothonotary and Clerk of the Courts for nine years terminating in 1817. In 1820 he filled the office of County Treasurer. Mr. Morrison's place of residence was on Main Street, his property adjoining the Court House lot on the north, the site now being occupied by the handsome Barclay office building. It is an interesting fact that his son, Dr. John Morrison, performed the duties of Town Clerk continuously from 1822 to 1840. William S. Graham, editor of *The Farmers' Register*, from 1808 to 1815, was a son-in-law of John Morrison. The latter died on January 7, 1821, aged 71 years.

ALEXANDER STEWART was a son of Archibald Stewart, one of the pioneers of the countytown. The Stewarts, father and son, were butchers. At the time he had conferred upon him the honor of being the first High Constable of Greensburg borough, Alexander Stewart resided at and conducted his business on the west side of North Main Street, at a point midway between Otterman and Tunnel Streets. Mr. Stewart was evidently a prudent and successful business man, as he acquired considerable property within the borough limits.

Market Houses.

One of the first and most important acts of the borough officials, after entering upon their duties, was the erection of a public market house. It was located



RESIDENCE OF MR. MORRIS L. PAINTER.
East Pittsburg Street.

at the corner of Main and West Pittsburg (then First) Streets, occupying what is now the sidewalk, on the south side of the Court House. The building was 40 feet in length and 14 feet in width. There were six pillars, eleven feet high and two feet square, on each side. The open space between the



RESIDENCE OF MR. JOHN S. MURPHEY.
North Main Street.

pillars was five and one-half feet. The foundation was composed of stone masonry and the balance of the structure of brick. It was covered by a shingle roof, which projected six feet and formed an "overshoot." The building was completed in October, 1799. An ordinance enacted by the Burgesses, directed that "Wednesdays and Saturdays shall be market days in the borough." Venders, who occupied the stalls for the sale or purchase of produce, meat, etc., were required to conclude their transactions by 9 o'clock a. m., in the summer, and 10 o'clock a. m., in the winter. Buying or selling after the prescribed hours, on conviction, subjected the guilty person to a fine of fifty cents for each offense.

The market house was torn down when the present Court House was erected (1854). What is now West Pittsburg Street, in the first quarter of the present century, was often called Market Street, because of the location of the market house thereon. That point (the site of the old market house) has always been regarded as the centre, or most public place, in the borough, and, in the olden days, as at present, was selected by the ash-pile, store-box and curb-stone orators as the spot for the delivery of their discourses. Some years after the razing of the old market house, a new one was erected on the southwest corner of Second Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. It soon fell into disuse, however, and, in 1874, was demolished to make way for an opera house, erected by William S. Naly. Two years later the opera house was destroyed by fire.

Residents of Greensburg in 1799.

Prior to its incorporation Greensburg had always been included in the assessment of Hempfield township. Accordingly, the first distinctive assessment of the borough was made in the year 1800. Isaac Waggle was the Assessor, and Michael Byerly and William Friedt Assistant Assessors.



RESIDENCE OF S. A. KLINE, ESQ.
West Otterman Street.

They were Hempfield township officials, those for the borough not yet having been elected. The rates of taxation were as follows:

Land—First rate, \$2.00; second rate, \$1.50; third rate, \$1.00; fourth rate, 50 cents.

Horses, Cow Creatures, Etc.—Hallions, \$30.00; mares and geldings, \$10.00; cows and steers, \$5.00.

Mills, Etc.—Grist mills, first rate, \$140.00; grist mills, second rate, \$90.00; saw, oil and fulling mills, first rate, \$40.00; saw, oil and fulling mills, second rate, \$30.00.

Trades—First rate, gunsmith, batter, painter, copper-smith, clockmaker, silversmith, tanner, millwright, cabinet-maker, \$100.00; second rate, wheelwright, blacksmith, nailor, wagonmaker, plasterer, mason, carpenter, saddler, joiner skin dresser, potter, \$75.00; third rate, barber, baker, tailor, brickmaker, weaver, shoemaker, butcher, \$50.00.

Posts of Profit and Profitable Occupations—Prothonotary and Sheriff, \$400; Recorder and Collector of Excise, \$200; Judge and Treasurer, \$100; attorneys and doctors, \$200.

Miscellaneous—Slaves, \$30; tanyards, \$60; stores, \$150; stills, first rate, \$25; stills, second rate, \$15; taverns, first rate, \$100; taverns, second rate, \$75.

In-lots are mostly rated at \$20; out-lots, near the town, are rated where the quantity of acres are known, at \$7 per acre. Such as are far off are rated at \$5 per acre. Houses, etc., are rated individually.

Horebach, Drum and Johnston's are counted first rate taverns, the rest are all second rate. Single men that are



FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.
South Main Street,
First Building, Log, 1795; 2d, 1815; 3d, 1883.

rated for a trade or occupation are not rated for being single men. Single men who are not charged with a trade or occupation are rated at \$100.

A complete list of the names, occupations and total valuation of the taxable inhabitants under the first borough assessment, is herewith presented:

Armstrong, George, attorney.....	\$ 832
Armstrong, Joseph, wheelwright.....	240
Brown, Robert, merchant.....	430
Beaty, Robert, merchant.....	704
Brownston, Asa, hatter.....	140
Brady, James, innkeeper.....	330
Bacon, Daniel, tailor.....	153
Coulter, Mrs. Priscilla, widow.....	388
Coulter, Henry, merchant.....	150
Crocket, Andrew, young man.....	100
Cope, William, plasterer.....	180
Collins, Daniel.....	190
Coderman, George, wagonmaker.....	80
Cristman, George, barber.....	230
Cooper, Robert, carpenter.....	200
Cook, Joseph.....	486
Dickey, Robert, merchant.....	430
Drum, Simon, innkeeper.....	1025
Drum, Philip, young man.....	100
Ewing, Adam, merchant.....	365
Emmitt, Samuel, landlord.....	280
Fowler, John, joiner.....	75
Flegger, John, blacksmith.....	105
Flegger, Peter, blacksmith.....	225
Friedt, William, young man.....	240
Graham, Robert, shoemaker.....	235
George, Nathaniel, merchant.....	345
Granias, Knos, joiner.....	125
Hanna, John, saddler.....	255
Hamilton, Thomas, Prothonotary.....	656
Hill, John, tailor.....	120
Horchbach, Peter, innkeeper.....	745
Hoge, Thomas, merchant.....	455
Henry, William, tailor.....	260
Hugus, Jacob, clockmaker.....	310
Harris, William, brickmaker.....	1110
Houser, John, aged man.....	225
Hofsteter, widow.....	30
Haines, Bernard, barber.....	80
Harwick, Joseph, wheelwright.....	100
Jameson, John, wheelwright.....	135

Johnston, Alexander, innkeeper.....	\$ 520
Kirkpatrick, John, ex-merchant.....	270
Keller, Daniel, saddler.....	155
Kubus, John, Sheriff.....	972
Kerns, John, hatter.....	490
Lukins, Thomas, cabinet-maker.....	250
Lutz, Godfrey, baker.....	100
Michly, Daniel, tailor.....	50
Morrison, John, merchant.....	265
McCorkle, William, printer.....	100
McClelland, John, weaver.....	120
Marshal, John, innkeeper.....	305
Morrow, Paul, attorney.....	515
McKeehan, David, attorney.....	270
McGuire, Thomas, innkeeper.....	350
Morford, Lewis, shoemaker.....	135
McCully, Andrew, copper and tinsmith.....	100
McKee, Samuel, journeyman tanner.....	100
McGanghey, Daniel, laborer.....	100
McLaughlin, Joseph.....	35
McRanaghan, William, shoemaker.....	50
Mahon, Barney, shoemaker.....	50
McCaskey, John, mason.....	205
McCaskey, James, mason.....	75
Postlewaith, James, doctor.....	465
Painter, Jacob.....	30
Rohrer, Frederick, merchant.....	411
Rohrer, George.....	20
Ryan, George, copper-smith.....	100
Stewart, John, butcher.....	60
Snowden, John M., printer.....	265
Stewart, Alexander, butcher.....	15
Shaefer, John, merchant.....	425
Stewart, Nathaniel, mason.....	145
Smith, John, shoemaker.....	50
Smith, John, blacksmith.....	235
Shnman, Peter, tanner.....	165
Singer, Simon, blacksmith.....	180
Shaeffer, Adam, saddletree-maker.....	75
Taylor, Joseph, merchant.....	300
Truby, Christopher, Jr., potter.....	340
Wise, Henry, clockmaker.....	175
Weaver, Henry, merchant.....	150
Wells, John, Collector of Excise.....	621
Williams, Nathan, mason.....	15
Welly, Henry, skin dresser.....	285
Watt, Robert, hatter.....	205
West, Samuel, shoemaker.....	21
Williams, Robert, saddler.....	50
Young, John, attorney.....	1105
Young, (brother of the above).....	19
Day, Nicholas.....	24
Non-resident } taxables. } Jackson, Richard.....	20
McClelland, Joseph.....	30
Nyhoff, Gerbard.....	200
Truby, Christopher, Esq.....	160



SECOND COURT HOUSE AT GREENSBURG.

Erected 1798.

The total number of taxables was 97; total valuation, \$25,555; number of houses and lots, 76; out-lots, 26; stores 11; taverns, 6; single men, 23; horses, 50; cattle, 42; posts of profit, 8; trades and occupations, 31; tanyards, 2; stills, 2.

In a majority of instances the assessed valuation, as given in the list, here presented, also represents real estate possessions which were located outside of the borough limits. Moreover, in many cases, taxables were not the owners of the real estate with which they were taxed, but merely tenants.

Second Court House at Greensburg.

Although authority was granted by the Act of February 14, 1789, for the displacing of the first rude Court House with a new and better one, it was not until eight years thereafter that the work was actually commenced. The old or first Court House was in use for offices until demolished, but the sittings of the court did not take place in that building after January, 1794. From June of that eventful year (during the Whiskey Insurrection) until April, 1795, the courts were held in the house of Robert Taylor, an innkeeper. In the three succeeding years the public house of Bartel Laffer was used for that purpose. The first Court House was torn down in the year 1797. While the second or new one was ready for partial occupancy, in the winter of 1798, the main structure, prison, adjoining office buildings and surroundings were not entirely completed until 1801. Brick and stone were the materials used in the construction. In the early years of the present century the Westmoreland Court House was renowned as a very handsome public building. The state supreme court sat in the

new edifice in 1799, beginning its session on May 27. A statement, in detail of the cost of the edifice, with the prison and offices, is annexed:

Nathaniel Williams for building Court House and offices and finding	
267,610 bricks at 40 s. per m.	\$2,414.60
David Pollock for materials provided and carpenter work done to Court House and offices.	4,209.68



RESIDENCE OF HON. GEORGE F. HUFF.
"Cabin Hill."

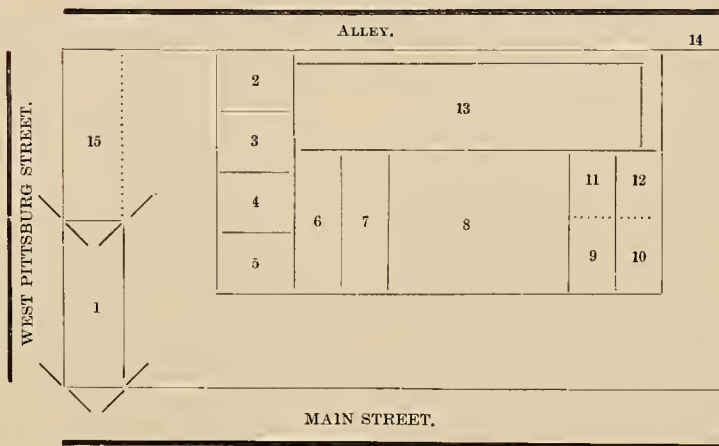
Samuel Alexander for nails and smithwork for Court House and jail...	293.54
Alex. Beans, for smithwork	127.72
Daniel Bacon, for ditto	33.37
Peter Horebach, for ditto	15.92
Peter Lawyer, for nails	18.66
John Probst, for screws	7.31
Jacob Hugus, for spouts and pipes	46.89
Tarence Campbell, sheet and bar iron	10.35
Gondy and Williams, for glue	.40
George Beck, for making stove pipes	12.66
Robert Williams, for paint and glue	10.88
Lancelot Armstrong, for lettering office doors	7.00
James McLaughlin for digging foundation of prison yard wall, 1124 yds. at 1 s. per yard	14.93
John Shaffer, for a stove for Court House	24.00
William Cope and Frederick Rhorer for plastering offices, in part	310.00
William Harris, for brick and hauling	11.33
William Harris, for brick and hauling	3.16
John Fleeger, for making stove pipe, etc.	21.62
Uriah Wheeler, for digging part of jail well	4.00
Thomas McCamith, labor at Court House	3.00
Peter Helich, for repairing tin pipes	29.33
Nathan Williams for painting brick work of Court House and offices	36.26
Nathan Williams, in part for building jail wall	811.78
John Fleeger, in part for public well	12.00
John Fleeger, for smithwork	17.30
William Cope, in full for plastering the offices and part of the Court House	313.97
John McCaskey, for cutting and laying steps at Court House and offices	105.33
Timothy Bnell, for covering jail wall, making gate, etc.	91.49
Peter Eckhart, for hauling stone for jail yard wall	125.53
Nathan Williams, for work done on jail and jail yard	224.39
Williams and Stewart, in part for paving front of the Court House	40.00
Joseph Heetter, for a bell	131.25
Extra expenses for use of public buildings	165.78
William Cope for plastering the under story and part of the upper story of the Court House, in full	209.82
John McCaskey for paving the under floor of the Court House	79.10
Williams and Stewart, for paving before Court House and offices	206.00
Nathan Williams, for digging and walling a well in the jail yard and paving about the same	150.00
John Shryock, for putting a pump in ditto	10.47
Joseph Armstrong, for putting up banisters, rails and gates before the Court House and offices and painting the same	104.75
Simon Singer, smithwork done about Court House, jail, jail yard, pump, etc.	26.20
Total	\$10,485.73

As will be seen by the illustration of the same, the second Court House was a two-story structure. It was

surmounted by a cupola or open belfry. Court House, jail and adjoining office buildings were reduced and removed, in 1854, to make way for the present edifice. A ground plan of the second Court House and its immediate surroundings, is shown in the diagram which follows:



PROPERTY OF MR. JAMES COCHRANE.
East Pittsburg Street.



1. Market house.
2. Jail, two-story stone building, about 30x30 feet.
3. Sheriff's house, one-story stone building, about 25x25 feet.
4. Coal house, frame.
5. House where town fire engine was kept. 4 and 5 were really one building with a partition between the two parts.
6. Wing of Court House, brick, one-story. For many years it was occupied as a law office by the late Hon. H. D. Foster.
7. Part of same building as No. 6. Occupied as County Commissioners' office.
8. Court House.

9, 10, 11, 12. Two-story brick building. First floor, 9, Prothonotary's office; 10, Treasurer's office. Second floor, 11, Recorder's office; 12, vacant room, used for storage, and subsequently as Commissioners' office, while present Court House was being erected.

13. Jail yard, with stone wall 15 feet high on west and north sides. Windows of buildings on east and south sides had iron gratings. Prisoners were sometimes permitted in the yard, but always under guard.

14. Gate.

15. Sidewalk.



RESIDENCE OF MR. WILLIAM F. BRINKER.
Corner North Maple Avenue and Grant Street.

Period When Slaves were Sold.

It will impress the average reader of the present generation as being almost incredible that slaves were sometimes sold at auction, on the corner of Main and West Pittsburg Streets (in front of the old market house), in Greensburg. Such, however, is the fact. In verification of the statement an advertisement, published in the Pittsburg Gazette, December 13, 1788, is subjoined, with other information on the same subject:

"Was committed to the Greensburgh gaol in December last, a Negro Man, about 45 years of age, tall and slim made, has lost some of his fore teeth; he has been advertised several times, but no owner has appeared. This is to give notice that unless his master comes and pays his fees; he will be sold on the second Thursday of January next.

WILLIAM PERRY, Sheriff."

"Greensburgh, December 8, 1788."

In other instances resident owners of slaves, desiring to dispose of them, posted handbills giving notice of the time when they would expose such property to public sale, at the place above stated.

Even less than seventy-five years ago transactions of that character occurred within the shadow of the Westmoreland Court House. On October 17, 1817, George Armstrong, Esq., advertised as follows in one of the local papers:

"For Sale—A Black Man, aged 23 years 1st of May last, and to serve until 28. He is stout, active and good natured, well acquainted with

farming. If not sold previous to Wednesday, 20th instant, he will on that day be sold at public sale in the borough of Greensburgh. Three months' credit will be given."

Mr. Armstrong was not himself a slave-owner, but was acting in his professional capacity as an attorney. The annexed appeared in the columns of the Greensburgh Gazette, on June 6, 1817:

"For Sale—The time of a Negro Girl, who is 17 years of age and has 11 years to serve. She is of a good moral character, and would not be sold but that the owner is about to move to the westward. Inquire of the printer."

A citizen of Greensburg, in June, 1816, advertised a runaway slave, offering a reward of \$30 for his apprehension. The outfit worn by the negro was evidently of a gorgeous and striking character. A glimpse thereof is furnished by the advertiser, and will, no doubt, be interesting to the reader of today. After describing the physical characteristics of his absent slave, the master added: "His clothing consisted of a blue cloth cottee with gilt buttons, a pair of mixt casinet overalls with bullet buttons at the ankles, a black silk vest, a fur hat with a green cover, a muslin shirt with ruffles, and boots with tassels. He also wore an indifferent silver watch, with a variety of seals and trinkets, and a large brooch on the bosom of his shirt."

An Act was passed by the Legislature on March 1, 1780, for the gradual abolition of slavery in Pennsylvania. By this statute children born to those in slavery were to remain in servitude until twenty-



RESIDENCE OF JOSEPH J. JOHNSTON, ESQ.
North Main Street.



FIRST REFORMED CHURCH.
East Third Street.
First Building, Log, 1795; 2d, 1815; 3d, 1882.

eight years of age. Slaves brought into Pennsylvania from other states under covenant were not to be held after they attained the age of twenty-eight, but could be held until that time. Owners of slaves were required to register them by November 1, 1780. If they refused or neglected to do so, the slave or servant was not to be deemed a slave or servant for the prescribed period. By an Act of April 13, 1782, inhabitants of Westmoreland and Washington counties, who were doubtful, before the boundry between Pennsylvania and Virginia was settled, as to which state they belonged, were allowed until January 1, 1783, to register such slaves or servants as they held on September 23, 1780. The provisions of this law were still further extended by a measure enacted September 23, 1784.

Under these several Acts, between September 25, 1780, and January 1, 1783, there were 695 male and female slaves registered in Westmoreland county, which, at that time, of course, included all the original territory of Westmoreland, except that cut off and embraced in Washington county. In 1798 there were twelve slaves in Hempfield township, which then still comprehended Greensburg. Three years later, 1801, the number of slaves in the entire county was one hundred and thirty-six; in 1810, twenty-one; and, in 1820, seven. One slave, a female, was reported in 1840, being the last in Westmoreland county.

Some of the white bond-servants, of early days, were likewise sold in Greensburg. They were known as redemptioners, as they had the right of redeeming themselves. Most of them sought passage from European countries to America, to escape persecution, and, not having means, agreed with the owner of a vessel to be sold for a term of years, on their arrival, to pay for their passage. It was such persons, who are referred to in the appended sample advertisement, which ap-

peared in a Greensburg paper, of the date given (the name of the advertiser being omitted):

"German Redemptioners for Sale—The time of a man, aged 40, the wife, aged 45, and a son aged 15 years, who have two years and a half to serve. Enquire of — —."

"Greensburg, March 5, 1819."



RESIDENCE OF MR. ADAM FISHER.
Corner North Main and Tunnel Streets.

Town Site in Court.

Messrs. William Jack and Christopher Truby, on the 14th of March, 1800, presented a petition to the Court of Common Pleas regarding the site of Greensburg. President Judge Alexander Addison and the Associate Judges of that court were on the bench. The petitioners stated that they had "lately discovered that a certain writing purporting to be articles of agreement between them of the one part and Benjamin Davis, Michael Rugh and Hugh Martin, Trustees for the county of Westmoreland," had been entered on the county records, "whereby the said William Jack and Christopher Truby are bound to make a clear patent, free from all incumbrances to the said Benjamin Davis, Michael Rugh and Hugh Martin, Trustees, or their successors, and promised to lay out a certain quantity of land for the use of a county town, containing sixty acres, as therein described, and to allow the inhabitants of said town free incourse and recourse to the North branch and West branch of Sewickley, at certain places, as the Trustees should think proper, not to be an injury to the bottom on said waters, and to sell the said lots of ground at the rate of forty-five shillings per acre."

The petitioners averred that they had never entered into or executed such articles of agree-



BUSINESS BUILDING OF MESSRS. L. KECK & CO.
Main Street.

ment. "The only contract which was ever made and confirmed in that respect related to the making over by your petitioners to the Trustees appointed by the said Act (Sept. 13, 1785) a lot of two acres or thereabouts for erecting public buildings, &c., in the centre of the said town, and selling the lots originally laid out to the first adventurers by lottery, who complied with the terms thereof, at six dollars for each lot, which contract has always been complied with on their part." The petitioners further declared that they had recently learned that the paper, entered on the county records as genuine but which in reality is not, was in the possession of Joseph Cook, of Greensburg (then Chief Burgess). Accordingly, the petitioners added, that they had brought the alleged articles of agreement "into court for the examination of your honors, and also pray an order for taking the depositions of witnesses touching the premises in *perpetuum rei memoriam*, that your said petitioners may be enabled to have the benefit of such testimony in opposition to any claim or demand of right, title or interest which might or could be desired by virtue of the said pretended articles of agreement, provided the same were genuine, against said William Jack and Christopher Truby, their heirs or assigns."

In conformity with the prayer of the petitioners the court appointed Messrs. John Irwin, William Todd and George Smith to take the depositions of the Trustees for the location of the seat of justice and erection of public buildings, under the Act of Sept. 13, 1785. In due time the sworn statements of the Trustees were secured and returned to the court. As the depositions embody the Trustees' own story of some of the circumstances attending the selection of Greensburg as the county-seat of Westmoreland, they possess greater interest to the present generation as a matter of local history, than in a legal sense. Some ex-

tracts, therefore, with the historic feature in view, will be quoted from the statements.

TRUSTEES' DEPOSITIONS.

Michael Rugh, who had removed from Hempfield to Franklin township, in the interval, testified that the articles of

agreement, referred to in the complainants' petition, had never been executed. He stated "that the Trustees at first agreed to purchase of them (Jack and Truby) sixty acres at four dollars an acre, but no articles were drawn, but he and the other two Trustees, immediately after, concluded that this measure would give them too much trouble, and relinquished the agreement and agreed to take a grant of two acres for the use of the public buildings, and the said William and Christopher were to sell and convey the town lots as they might think proper. That articles of agreement were afterwards entered into for that purpose and a conveyance made for the two acres by the proprietors of the ground."

In the course of his evidence Benjamin Davis likewise declared that the purported articles of agreement had not been confirmed, and, that the paper in question, he did not recollect of ever having seen, until recently. Mr. Davis added: "There was an article made between the said William (Jack) and Christopher Truby, of the one part, and the Trustees of the other part, by which the said Trustees agreed to purchase of the said William and Christopher a certain quantity of land for the use of a county town, which the deponent believes was sixty acres, or thereabouts, which article was disannulled the second day after it was wrote, by the consent of all parties, and a new contract entered into by which the said William and Christopher agreed to give and grant to the Trustees



PLANING MILL OF MR. J. COVODE REED.
East Otterman Street.

for the purpose of erecting public buildings the quantity of two acres in the centre of the town of Greensburgh. That to the best of this deponent's knowledge and belief this last mentioned agreement was the only one which was ever confirmed between the said William and Christopher and the

said Trustees; and, in pursuance thereof, a deed was made and executed by the said Christopher and Isabel, his wife, Ludwig Otterman and Francesca, his wife, and Margaret Jack and John Moore, Esq., attorney for William Jack, Esq., (who was absent) to the said Trustees for the aforesaid two acres, bearing date the 6th of May, 1789. This deponent on further recollection believes that Ludwig Otterman was a party to the first agreement before mentioned for the purchase of sixty acres. That by that agreement the Trustees were to lay off the town lots and sell the same for the use and benefit of the county. That the survey of the sixty acres was never completed on account of the disannulling of the bargain. This deponent further said that the sum agreed to be paid for the sixty acres was to have been thirty shillings per acre, of which no part was ever paid to his knowledge by reason of the disannulling before mentioned."

Hugh Martin, after carefully reading and examining the paper in dispute, also disclaimed that it had ever been signed and executed. Following the appointment of the Trustees, by the Act of Assembly, to fix upon a location for the seat of justice for Westmoreland county, he deposed, they met for that purpose on the ground where Greensburgh now stands. "A proposition was made," Mr. Martin further testified, "by William Jack, Chris-



RESIDENCE OF MR. LUCIEN CLAWSON.
Corner North Maple Avenue and Park Street.

topher Truby and Ludwig Otterman to sell the Trustees sixty acres or sixty-four acres of land at four dollars per acre. A majority of the Trustees, to-wit: Benjamin Davis, Michael Rugh and this deponent, having concluded to fix



RESIDENCE OF MRS. J. A. MARCHAND.
Corner North Main and Park Streets.

the seat at Greensburgh, thought of agreeing to the said proposition, and this deponent then returned to his house, leaving the other two Trustees on the ground. That some time after this deponent met with Benjamin Davis who mentioned some difficulties about selling different lots that he had begun to survey, the quantity to be sold, and had gone part of the way in running the lines, but it had come to his mind that the Trustees were not authorized to purchase more ground than was necessary for the public buildings, and that, more especially, as two of the Trustees dissented, it would be better to take only as much ground as would be necessary for that purpose, which, he believes, was two acres. That this deponent and the other two Trustees, to-wit: B. Davis and M. Rugh agreed upon this plan. This deponent doth not recollect to have signed any articles upon the subject of the proposition for the sixty or sixty-four acres, but if there was any such articles they were disannulled by the consent of all parties. That an agreement was made with William Jack and Christophor Truby, and, this deponent believes, with Ludwig Otterman, to lay out the county town at Greensburgh and to receive two acres for erecting public buildings, which agreement was executed."

Below is a copy of the paper, referred to in

the depositions as either having never been executed or disannulled:

THE DISAVOWED AGREEMENT.

Articles of agreement made and concluded on between Christopher Truby and Wm. Jack of the one part and Benjamin Davis, Michael



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.
Corner North Main and Tunnel Streets.
First Building, 1824; 2d, 1851; 3d, 1889.

Rugh and Hugh Martin, trustees for the county of Westmoreland, Witnesseth, that the said Christopher Truby and Wm. Jack doth hereby grant, bargain and sell unto the said Benj. Davis, Mich'l Rugh and Hugh Martin, Trustees, a certain piece of land situate and being in Hempfield township, on the North Branch of the Sewicklee, containing two acres, for the use of Erecting a Court House and prison, for the consideration of six pence lawful money of the state of Pennsylvania to us in hand paid, the receipt we do hereby confess and acknow-

ledge ourselves fully satisfied, and the said Christopher Truby and William Jack doth hereby bind themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to make a clear Patton free from all incumbrances to the said Benjn Davis, Michael Rugh and Hugh Martin, Trustees or their successors, and the said Christopher Truby and William Jack doth hereby promise to the said trustees to lay out a certain quantity of land for the use of a county town containing Sixty acres, viz: Running thence south twenty east 160 perches, south 43' east 80 perches, north 75 east 40 perches and north 4½ west 135 perches to a post, south 75 west to the place of beginning, and to allow the Inhabitants of said Town free incourse and recourse to the North Branch and West Branch at certain places as the said trustees shall think proper, not to be an injury to the bottom on said Watters, and the said Christopher Truby and Wm. Jack doth hereby promise to sell the said lots of ground at the rates of Forty-five shillings per lot, and we do hereby bind ourselves in the penalty of Two thousand pounds for the true performance of the above agreement, as witness our hands and seals the 10th day of December, 1785.

CHRIS TRUBY,
WILLIAM JACK.

Sealed and delivered in the prence
of Wm. McGHEE.

Recorded 12th day of July, 1787, ———, page 282.
[Book B. page 287].

The duly signed, acknowledged and recorded

instrument for the transfer of the two acres, adverted to in the Trustees' depositions, is subjoined:

DEED FOR THE PUBLIC SQUARE.

This indenture made this 6th day of May, 1789, by and between Christopher Truby, Esq., and Isabella, his wife, Ludwig Otterman, and Francisca, his wife, and Margaret Jack and John Moore, Esq., true and lawful attorneys for William Jack, Esq., of the one part, and Benjamin Davis, Mich. Rugb and Hugh Martin, Esq., Trustees for the



RESIDENCE OF JAMES S. MOORHEAD, ESQ.
West Pittsburg Street.

county of Westmoreland and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, of the other part, Witnesseth, that whereas the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by their patents duly executed, with the State seal unto them affixed, did grant unto said Chr. Truby a certain tract of land, called seat of justices, the 26th day of August, 1788, and enrolled in the office at Philadelphia, in Patent Book No. 12, page 329; likewise to the said Ludwig Otterman one other certain tract of land, by patent bearing date the 10th of November, 1784, and enrolled as aforesaid, in Book No. 3, page 130; likewise to the said William Jack one other certain tract of land, by patent bearing date the 2d day of April, in the year of our Lord 1788, and enrolled as aforesaid in Book No. —, page —, reference to the said Books respectively being had will more fully and at large appear. Now this indenture witnesseth that the said Christopher Truby, Esq., and Isabella, his wife, Ludwig Otterman, and Francisca, his wife, and Margaret Jack and John Moore, true and lawful attorneys for William Jack, as will appear by letters of attorney duly executed, bearing date the 6th November, in the year 1788, and duly recorded in the office for recording of deeds in and for the county of Westmoreland, in Book D, page 91, reference to the said will more fully and at large appear. Now know ye that the before recited parties as well as for the laudable inclination they have to further the publick buildings agreeable to an obligation by them given, as for and in consideration of the sum of five shillings, good and lawful money of Pennsylvania, to them in hand well and truly paid, the receipt and payment whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained and sold, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell, release, assign and confirm unto the said Benj. Davis, Mich. Rugb and Hugh Martin, Trustees for the county of Westmoreland, to them and their heirs and assigns or successors, in trust for the county of Westmoreland, a certain lot or piece of ground in the town of Greensburgh, known by the name of the Publick Square, in the general plan of said town, Beginning at post in First street, thence along said street south 75 degrees west 15 perches to a post in the corner of Back street, thence along said street north 15 degrees west 21 perches and four-tenths to a post in Otterman street; thence along said street north 75 degrees east to a post in Main street; thence along said street south 15 degrees east 21 perches to the place of beginning, containing two acres, with the appurtenances, improvements, buildings, gardenings, ways, waters, water courses, rights, liberties, privileges and hereditaments whatsoever thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining, to the only proper use and behoof of the said Benj. Davis, Mich. Rugb and Hugh Martin, Trustees as aforesaid, for and in trust and for the use afore-

said to them and their heirs and assigns or successors forever, and the said Chr. Truby and Isabella, his wife, and Ludwig Otterman, and Francisca, his wife, and for themselves and their heirs, and the said Margaret Jack and John Moore, by virtue of the before recited powers do further covenant and promise that they the aforesaid lot of two acres, with its appurtenances (it being part of the before recited tracts) unto the said Benjamin Davis, Mich. Rugh and Hugh Martin, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns or successors in trust and for the

use aforesaid, shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents in fee subject nevertheless to such restrictions and reservations as is reserved by the Commonwealth.

In testimony whereof the said Chr. Truby and Isabella, his wife, and Ludwig Otterman and Francisca, his wife, Margaret Jack and John Moore have hereinunto set their hands and seals the day and year first written Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of us.

WILLIAM MAGHEE,
J. HAMILTON.

CHR. TRUBY,
her
ISABELLA X TRUBY,
mark
LUDWIG OTTERMAN,
her
FRANCISCA X OTTERMAN,
mark
JOHN MOORE,
MARGARET JACK.

Westmoreland County, ss.

Be it remembered that on the 6th day, of May, A. D. 1789, came before me, James Hamilton, Esq., one of the Commonwealth's Justices of the Peace, also of the Court of Common Pleas in and for said county, came Chr. Truby, Esq., and Isabella, his wife, and Ludwig Otterman, and Francisca, his wife, and Margaret Jack and John Moore, Esq., the grantors above named, and acknowledged the above indenture or conveyance to be their act and deed and desires the same to be recorded according to law, the said parties being by me examined in due form of law and voluntarily consenting, the contents unto them first being made known.

JAMES HAMILTON.

Recorded May 7, 1789, Book D, page 115.

Although the Burgesses and Inhabitants of the Borough of Greensburg, together with the late Trustees of the county, were made the defendants in the action of the petitioners or complainants, the former offered no opposition. Indeed, there is reason to believe that the Burgesses had urged the proceedings, in order to adjudicate the matter during the lifetime of the Trustees,



BUSINESS BUILDING OF MESSRS POLLINS.
Main Street.

and avoid any controversy or litigation in the future. The petition, depositions and other formal actions, incident to filing the same in *perpetuum rei memoriam*, were read in open court on December 18, 1800, and, there being no objection, the rule was made absolute.



RESIDENCE OF MR. ELI SELL.
Corner South Main and West Fourth Streets.

Packers and Movers.

Greensburg, like all settlements in the western country, prior to 1800, and even for some years thereafter, was compelled to depend almost entirely on post-riders and pack-horses in its communication with the outside world. Vehicles of any kind were few, because of the scant means of the settlers, and the limited number and impassable condition of the roads, during the greater part of the year. With the exception of the Forbes' road, through Hannastown, and the more direct road, through Greensburg, from the eastward to Pittsburg, there were no other roads in this locality, previous to 1790, worthy of the name. The lateral and cross ways were merely in the nature of bridle-paths and timber trails. During the spring and autumn even the Forbes' and Greensburg roads, because of storm-felled timber, boggy bottoms and bridgeless streams, could only be traversed with peril and difficulty.

Greensburg was a popular sojourning place with the packers and movers (owners or drivers of pack-horse trains) in their trips eastward and westward. There were four or more taverns in the limits or vicinity of the town, in 1786, with special provisions for catering to the packers. Two prime requisites were a large open shed, with an enclosed loft, and a commodious barroom. In

the sheds were long troughs, along the edges of which were driven plenty of nails to prevent the hungry pack-horses from knawing away the wood. A glance into the loft would reveal numerous little heaps of oats and corn, carefully piled all over the floor by the pack-



BUSINESS BUILDING OF BLANK BROS.
East Otterman Street.

ers, going eastward, which they would feed to their faithful horses on the return trip. On the spacious barroom floor, with their feet to the fire, and their heads wherever they could find a resting place, the sturdy packers passed the night. Some of the barrooms had accommodations for two or three dozen lodgers. The habit of the packers and movers was a yellow or green hunting shirt, made of tow-linen, neatly plaided from the elbows to the wrists, and adorned with fringes around the tails, wrists, capes and collars. Under the long hunting shirt leggings were worn, while the feet were clad in moccasins. The packers and movers traveled in droves or caravans, with from six to a dozen horses tethered in single file, the driver riding in the lead or rear and directing the train by lusty vocal orders. With the heavily-laden packsaddles, and a tinkling bell suspended from their necks, the horses trudged steadily along at the rate of from eighteen to twenty miles a day. Produce of certain kinds, whiskey and skins were conveyed to the east of the mountains and alum-salt, iron and merchandise brought back.

Among the innkeepers in Greensburg and immediate vicinity in 1788 were Joseph Thompson, Robert Taylor, Bartel Laffer and John Taylor. In this connection it will, no doubt, be a matter of interest to the reader to scan the form of a tavern license at that period. It was as follows:

Know all Men by these presents, that I, Joseph Thompson, of the Town of Greensburgh, am Held and firmly bound unto His Excellency Thomas Mifflin, Esquire, President of the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in the Sum of Forty pounds, Current Money of the said Commonwealth: To which payment well and truly to be made. I do bind myself, my Heirs, Executors, and administrators, firmly by these

Presents. Sealed with my Seal, Dated the Sixth Day of October, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-Nine.

The Condition of the above Obligation is such, That Whereas the above bounden Joseph Thompson hath obtained a Recommendation from the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the County of Westmoreland to the Supreme Executive Council for their License to sell all Kinds of Spirituous Liquors by the Small measure, If therefore

the said Joseph Thompson, after having obtained the said License, shall during the Continuance thereof, be of good Behavior, and shall observe and keep all the Laws and Ordinances which are and shall be made, relating to his said employment, within this common-wealth, then the above Obligation to be void, otherwise to be and remain in full Force and Virtue.

JOSEPH THOMPSON. [Seal].

Sealed and delivered in presence of

THOMAS HAMILTON,
MICH. HUFFNAGLE.



RESIDENCE OF HON. JAMES S. BEACOM.
North Main Street.

Early Mail Methods.

Messages, letters, papers and small packages, such as constitute what is ordinarily designated mail matter, in the early days of the western country, were carried by the courtesy of travelers. A citizen of Greensburg or vicinity, when about to make a journey to Philadelphia, or points east of the mountains, was entrusted with letters or valuable papers, by his neighbors, which he delivered as a favor. Persons traveling to the west of the mountains did the same thing. Packers and movers likewise often combined the business of a mail carrier or post-express with that of transporting merchandise, for a small compensation. Post riders, under government authority, operated between Pittsburg and Philadelphia, with more or less regularity, after 1792.

When Greensburg's first newspaper was established in 1799, the papers were sent in packages to prominent citizens, named in its columns, in vari-



BUFF OFFICE BUILDING.
Main Street.

ous localities, to whom subscribers in the vicinity went and received copies. The packages were carried from the publication office by post-riders employed by the publishers. In some instances, residents of a neighborhood, by an agreed order of rotation, journeyed to the printing office in Greensburg, procured the required number of papers, took them back and distributed them among those subscribers in the rotation agreement. Subsequently, post-riders were employed for particular routes and received fifty cents per annum from each subscriber for the weekly delivery of his copy of the paper.

A regular stage and mail service, on the leading roads, was established a few years later. The schedule of the arrival and departure of the mail-stages, at Greensburg in 1807, was as follows:

EASTERN.—The mail-stage for Philadelphia leaves Greensburgh every Sunday and Thursday morning, and returns every Sunday and Wednesday evening.

A mail for Alexandria, Huntingdon county via Dennistonstown (New Alexandria), Armagh, Benta, &c., leaves Greensburgh every Friday morning and returns every Monday evening.

WESTERN.—The mail stage for Pittsburgh leaves Greensburgh every Monday and Thursday morning and returns every Wednesday and Saturday evening.

A mail leaves Greensburgh every Tuesday morning for Kittanning, via Freeport, and returns every Wednesday evening.

Another mail leaves Greensburgh once in two weeks, on Monday morning, via Mountpleasant and Robbstown, for Wheeling, and returns on Saturday, following.

Subjoined is the order of the arrival and departure of the mail-stages at Greensburg in 1813:

The Philadelphia and Pittsburg mail arrives every Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, and departs every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings.

The Washington mail arrives every Tuesday and departs the same day.

The Kittanning mail arrives every Thursday evening and departs every Tuesday morning.

The Bedford mail arrives every Friday evening and departs every Saturday morning.

The Uniontown mail arrives every Monday evening and departs every Tuesday morning.

The Building of the Turnpike.

Recognizing the need of a better and more substantial highway from the central to the western part of the State, and in compliance with a popular demand, the General Assembly on April 2, 1811, passed an Act "to encourage the constructing of certain great and leading roads within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania," etc. By this statute the sum of \$350,000 was appropriated toward the building of an artificial road from the bank of the Susquehanna river, opposite Harrisburg, to Pittsburg. Governor Snyder, in accordance with the law, appointed Nathan Beech, of Philadelphia, Robert Harris and John Schoch, of Harrisburg, and William McCandless and Adamson Tannehill, of Pittsburg, commissioners to view the two routes proposed, the northern and southern. After due consideration, they reported in favor of the latter route, leading through Chambersburg, Bedford, Somerset and Greensburg to Pittsburg.

Although the provisions of the Act were extended as to time, the residents of the western counties were slow to avail themselves of the terms and opportunity offered. Toward the close of the year 1813, however, there was an



RESIDENCE OF MRS. JOHN KUHNS.
West Pittsburg Street.

awakening among the inhabitants of Westmoreland and Allegheny counties on the subject. Meetings were held at various places throughout the two counties and committees appointed to attend a general meeting, which took place at the



RESIDENCE OF MR. FRANK N. GRAFF.
North Maple Avenue.

house of James Herron, in Pittsburg, on December 27, 1813. Messrs. Dunning McNair, John B. Alexander, Esq., and Ephraim Pentland were appointed a committee by that meeting to draft a memorial to the Legislature, praying for the enactment of a law authorizing the incorporation of a company to build an artificial road from Pittsburg to Greensburg.

In the course of the memorial the General Assembly was informed that the inhabitants of Allegheny and Westmoreland counties were anxious to foster and encourage the commerce of the western country; that Pittsburg was the place of deposit for all the foreign merchandise destined for the western part of Virginia, that part of Pennsylvania connected with the waters of Lake Erie, and the States of Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee, transported by land from Philadelphia and Baltimore; that the number of teams engaged in the transportation of merchandise and annually arriving at Pittsburg was from 7,000 to 10,000; that a free turnpike was then in course of construction, at the entire expense of the United States government, from the vicinity of Washington, D. C., to Wheeling, the result of which would be to injure the trade of Philadelphia and extend that of Baltimore; that "during the present season, owing to the extreme badness of the roads, hundreds of wagons have left the main road, east of Greensburgh, and made the best of their way to the Monongahela and Youghiogheny rivers, and from thence have transported their loading by water to Pittsburgh, at a considerable addition of expense and delay." As a remedy for those evils, the passage of an Act authorizing the Governor



RESIDENCE OF MR. L. W. BOTT.
Corner West Second Street and Pennsylvania Avenue.

to incorporate a company for making a turnpike road from Pittsburg to Greensburg, and subscribing on the part of the State therefor \$60,000, while the inhabitants of the two counties would, it was believed, subscribe \$72,000; and, repeal such part of the Act of April 2, 1811, as would be supplied by this plan, was proposed. Copies of the petition or memorial were circulated in both Allegheny and Westmoreland counties, numerous signed and forwarded to Harrisburg.

Under the provisions of an Act passed March 9, 1814, the Governor was directed to incorporate five companies to construct the contemplated turnpike. The first corporation was for the building of the road from Harrisburg to Chambersburg; the second from Chambersburg to Bedford; the third from Bedford to Somerset; the fourth from Somerset to Greensburg; and the fifth from Greensburg to Pittsburg. The Commissioners, empowered by the law, to open books for subscriptions to the stock of the Somerset (subsequently Stoystown) and Greensburg Turnpike Road Company were John Ankeny, John Dennison and John Fletcher, of Somerset county; William Jack, Sr., Arthur Carr, Peter Gay, John Grove, Hugh Martin, John White, John Hurst and Alexander Johnston, of Westmoreland county; and Samuel Trevor, John Lyon and Richard Weaver, of Fayette county. Those named with like authority for the Greensburg and Pittsburg Turnpike Road Company were Simon Drum, Jr., William Friedt, Robert Stewart and Jeremiah Murry, of Westmoreland county; William McCandless, Philip Gilleland, John Darrah, James Morrison and George Stewart, of Allegheny county; and David Bruce and Robert Bowland, Jr., of Washington county. When twenty-five

persons had subscribed 500 shares to the stock of the Somerset and Greensburg Company, the State Executive was directed to issue letters patent to the Company. That official was to pursue a similar course when fifty persons had subscribed 600 shares to the Greensburg and Pittsburg Company.

Books were promptly opened for the Greensburg and Pittsburg turnpike at both those places and also at the houses of Robert Stewart, in North Huntingdon township, and Jeremiah Murry, in Franklin township. Having met the require-

ments of the law and been duly incorporated the first officers and managers were elected on August 5, 1814, as follows: President, William Wilkins; Treasurer, William Friedt; Managers, Joseph Patterson, Ephraim Pentland, William B. Foster, Dunning McNair, Thomas Sampson, Jacob Negley, William Caven, George Armstrong, James Irwin, William Hindman, Tobias Painter, William Fullerton. The first contract at the eastern end of the road was awarded in September, 1814, being for two miles westward from Greensburg.



SUMMER RESIDENCE OF MR. E. M. GROSS,
Hempfield Township, Northwest of Greensburg.

Some delay was occasioned as to the Somerset and Greensburg turnpike, by reason of the amendment of the law, changing the route. Somerset was passed by, and, as a consequence, the name of the corporation became the Stoystown and Greensburg Turnpike Road Company. Officers were elected on July 28, 1815, by the selection of John B. Alex-



RESIDENCE OF MR. CHRISTOPHER CRIBES.
Alexander Street.

ander, Esq., as President; Thomas Pollock, Treasurer; and John Dennison, Alexander Johnston, Joseph Baldridge, Arthur Carr, Abraham Horbach, John Ramsey, Alexander Seaton, Matthew Jack, Thomas Dunlap, John Lehmer and William Lehmer, as Managers. The first contracts for the construction of the road were awarded in the following September.

Upon the incorporation of the companies, by the law already referred to, the Governor was authorized to subscribe, (and, on the completion of five miles of road by each company, to pay a proportionate amount thereof), for 1,100 shares of the Harrisburg and Chambersburg Company; 2,100 shares of the Chambersburg and Bedford Company; 1,300 shares each, of the Bedford and Stoystown, and the Stoystown and Greensburg Company; and 1,200 of the Greensburg and Pittsburg Company. By an Act of March, 1821, the Executive was directed to subscribe for 1,600 shares of the five companies in addition to that already mentioned.

A report made to the House of Representatives, on March 23, 1823, showed the subscriptions to the stock of the several companies to have been as follows:

	Individual.	State.	Length—Miles.
First.....	\$ 75,000	\$ 85,000	48½
Second.....	113,850	167,500	55
Third.....	40,400	104,000	28½
Fourth.....	71,000	112,000	37
Fifth.....	62,000	89,000	30½



MOST HOLY SACRAMENT (CATHOLIC) CHURCH.
North Main Street.
First Building, 1816; second, 1887.

The turnpike was completed from one end to the other before the close of the year 1821. That part of the great thoroughfare from Greensburg to Stoystown, and from Greensburg to Pittsburg, however, was virtually finished two and three years previously. Annexed is a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the Stoystown and Greensburg Turnpike Road Company, for the period terminating December 31, 1819, issued for the information of the stockholders:

RECEIPTS.

Stock paid in by individuals.....	\$ 66,629.02½
Interest received from individual stockholders.....	856 60
Stock paid by the Commonwealth.....	97,436 48
Borrowed from Westmoreland Bank of Pennsylvania.....	25,000.00
Paid to contractor by Superintendent, and for which Treasurer has credit..	575.39
Paid to Treasurer by different gatekeepers.....	15,982.37
Bills and tickets issued by the Company	17,871.00
Balance due to Treasurer.....	180.21

Total \$224,531.07½

EXPENDITURES.

Expenses for locating the road, including Manager's wages for 1815 and 1816.	\$ 1,766.75
Paid contractors for making road.....	188 996.78
Paid Managers' wages for 1817 and 1818, including clerks of elections, allowance to Secretary, etc.....	642.00
Paid stamps and discounts on bank loan.....	3,273.15
Paid Westmoreland Bank of Pennsylvania.....	25,000.00
Paid for gate houses.....	654.00
Paid for printing, seal, attorney's fees and other incidental expenses.....	629.15
Expenses of repairing the road.....	3,633.45½
Paid bills and tickets issued by the Company.....	2,935.84
Treasurer's pay, four years ending 1st of July, 1819.....	2,000.00

Total \$224,531.07½

Wagons, Stages and Hotels.

Although wagons and stage coaches had been seen on the streets of Greensburg daily before, the completion of the turnpike, to the eastward and westward, greatly multiplied the number. Additional taverns were opened, both in the borough and on the outskirts, for the entertainment of the wagoners and turnpike travelers. There was a recognized line of distinction between the

public houses, those at which the stages and their passengers stopped claiming to be of a better class than the hostleries patronized by the freight teamsters. Sheds and stage or wagon yards were indispensable adjuncts of a tavern of that period.



RESIDENCE AND OFFICE OF DR. E. M. CLIFFORD.
Corner South Main and East Fourth Street.

Wagons in use for regular turnpike transportation were almost entirely of the ponderous six-horse Conestoga type. They had deep, strong beds, with a weather covering of stout linen, supported by hickory bows. A box, with a clasped lid, was affixed to the left side of the wagon-bed. In this were deposited a curry-comb, brush, sponge and other essentials and extras, which generally included a flask of whiskey. A feeding-trough was attached to the rear end of the wagon-body by two chains. It was of sufficient capacity to provision six horses. When the place was reached where the stop was to be made for the night, the saddle-horse was detached, the trough brought forward and fastened on the wagon-tongue, with iron fixtures provided for that purpose, and a prop placed at the end of the tongue. All the horses were then unhitched and tied to the trough, three on each side. Rails or poles were run from one wheel to the other, under the wagon-bed, on which the gears were hung during the night. The evening and morning allotments of oats or corn, together with a liberal supply of hay, unsually constituted all the feed which the horses received in the course of twenty-four hours. In the winter season the horses were sometimes covered with a blanket. After providing for their horses, the teamsters refreshed themselves with both liquids and solids. Merry-making, dancing and discussions

of events and affairs, happening or pertaining to the road, ordinarily engaged the rugged and jolly wagoners during the evenings. Wrapped in a blanket they snored and rested at night upon the barroom floor. At 5 o'clock in the morning the wagons were again on the move. The spirited crack of



STOREROOM OF MESSRS. A. E. TROUTMAN & CO.
Corner Main and West Second Street.

the whip, and the stentorian yell of the teamster, in giving commands to the uncomplaining beasts of burden, or vocalizing a song, could frequently be heard a half-mile over the hills as they journeyed along. The teams, under normal conditions, traveled in groupings, varying in number from four to twenty. Each wagon carried 8,000 or 9,000 pounds from Philadelphia and Baltimore to Pittsburg. From the former place the carriage rates were \$2.50 and \$3.00 per hundred-weight, and from Baltimore \$2.00. The time from Philadelphia, with fair weather and no mishaps, was eighteen days, and from Baltimore, fifteen. At times a wagon carried goods for several consignees. That was characterized as "piece loading," and commanded higher rates.

A stock company formed in the early part of 1817, as "The Philadelphia and Pittsburg Transporting Company," employed many teams between those two cities. Annual contracts were made with the owners of horses and wagons. Greater speed than the customary wagon travel was one of the main purposes of this company. The loading did not exceed 4,000 pounds, per wagon, from Philadelphia to Carlisle, and 3,500 from that place to Pittsburg. Company wagons left Philadelphia and Pittsburg daily and moved continuously day and night. Drivers were required to make no less than two miles an hour and change horses every ten miles.

A record made by a turnpike gate-keeper, on the Chestnut Ridge, between Greensburg and Stoystown, showed

the following as having passed through that gate for the year ending May 31, 1818: 7,120 single horses, 350 one-horse vehicles, 501 two-horse vehicles, 105 three-horse vehicles, 281 four-horse vehicles, 2,412 five-horse vehicles, 2,698 six-horse vehicles, 38 one-horse sleighs and sleds, and 201 two-



RESIDENCE OF MR. EDWARD K. DICK.
Corner North Pennsylvania Avenue and Academy Street.

horse sleighs and sleds, making a total of 38,599 horses for the first year after the erection of the gate. An account, kept at a point four and one-half miles east of Pittsburg, revealed the fact that, from January 1, 1815, to December 31, 1815, inclusive, 5,800 road wagons, laden with merchandise, passed into that city. Nearly all of those wagons returned to the east of the mountains with loads of cordage, saltpetre, flour, etc. Wagons from the Juniata and other iron works, which generally traveled by the northern route, were not included in the above account. From March 1 to March 20, 1827, a total of 500 wagons, eastward and westward, passed through the turnpike gate on the hill west of Greensburg. Eighty-five wagons passed through the gate on the hill, east of Greensburg, on March 31, 1832, being the largest number in a single day up to that time. That record was eclipsed, however, on March 12, 1837, when the number reached ninety-two.

Some facts as to the arrival and departure of the stages, at Greensburg, prior to the construction of the turnpike, are presented in preceding pages of this volume. A lively rivalry sprang up, between the stage owners in 1819, on the partial completion of the Northern turnpike, from Harrisburg, through Lewistown, Huntingdon, New Alexandria and New Salem to Pittsburg. By that route stages left Harrisburg at noon, on Tuesday, and arrived at Pittsburg on the following Monday. The fare was \$14 for the entire distance and

seven cents per mile for way passengers. As a result, the Baltimore and Pittsburg stages, on the turnpike through Greensburg, which formerly occupied four days from Chambersburg to Pittsburg, reduced the time to three, with a cor-

responding rate of fare to that of the Northern pike. In 1837, when turnpike travel and transportation was at its zenith, there were four regular lines of stages, besides many extras, passing daily through Greensburg. So heavy was the passenger and freight traffic, at that time on the turnpike, that it greatly stimulated the agitation and efforts then under way, for the extension of the railroad to the western part of the State.

THE RIVAL BRIDGES.

At the beginning of the year 1815 there were six first-class, commodious taverns, for that period, in Greensburg. The borough limits, it should be remembered, however, were not so far-reaching then as they are at the present time. In that year, and for forty-five years thereafter, the lines were practically the same as set forth in the statute of incorporation. Outlined as nearly as can be done by readily recognized streets, of this day, the borough, for the first sixty years of the present century, was bounded on the north by Tunnel Street; on the south by Third Street; on the east by an almost direct line from the corner of East Third Street and Maple Avenue to the junction of East Otterman and Arch Street, or the New Alexandria road; and, on the west by Pennsylvania Avenue, except between West Otterman and Second



RESIDENCE OF MR. JAMES CARROLL,
East Greensburg.

Streets, where the boundary line extended about one square farther westward. Of the six hotels referred to, three were located on Pittsburg Street and three on Otterman Street. Those two streets join on the eastern side of the borough

and run parallel, with one square intervening, to a point west of the borough, where they again conjoin and are merged into one. Accordingly, both were available, and, of about equidistance, for turnpike travel. As was quite natural, under such circumstances, there was an animated competition between the innkeepers and merchants on the two parallel streets. Various methods were adopted to divert the wagons and stages, in traversing the borough eastward and westward, from one street to the other. As an instance, it may be related that in 1815, the County Commissioners erected a substantial stone bridge over the creek on West Pittsburg Street, (in recent years popularly styled Coal Tar run), at the earnest solicitation of the friends and beneficiaries of travel on that thoroughfare. When the county officials were urged to make a like improvement over the same stream on West Otterman Street, however, they declined. Recognizing the great advantage gained in the bridge by their competitors, and thoroughly aroused, the Otterman Street residents, notwithstanding the partial action of the County Commissioners, determined upon a somewhat expensive counter move. They had an equally substantial stone bridge constructed on Otterman Street and paid for it out of their own pockets.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN E. KUNKLE, ESQ.
Corner North Maple Avenue and Park Street.

The spirit evinced by the Otterman Street business men will be more full appreciated when the fact is recalled that, although they resided in the borough, the bridge was located in Hempfield township.



PROPERTIES OF MRS. ANNA M'CAUSLAND.
Corner West Otterman Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. [64]

TAVERN CHARGES EIGHTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

Although the Greensburg innkeepers differed as to some things at that early period, they were united and harmonious on others, as the appended public notice will demonstrate:

Whereas, the constituted and high authorities of the United States have thought proper in their collective wisdom to levy heavy duties on all spirituous liquors, thereby depriving the retailers and venders of the usual and necessary entertainment of profit in vending the same; therefore, we, the subscribers, innkeepers in the borough of Greensburg, do agree to and with each other, that we will not sell under the following prices, to-wit:

Spirits distilled from rye or corn.....	\$.12½	per gal.
Brandy18½	do
Jamaica spirits and gin.....	.18½	do
Maderia wine.....	2.00	per bottle.
Lisbon wine.....	1.50	do
Meals, vituals.....	.37½	
Check.....	.25	
Lodging.....	.12½	
Boarding.....	3.50	per week.

HORSE FARE.

Oats.....	.12½	per gal.
Horse at hay37½	per night.
Horse in the stable through the day and a gallon of oats.....	.25	
Hay alone through the day.....	.12½	
Horse at hay, per week.....	1.50	

Witness our hands this 7th day of January, 1815.

ABRAHAM HORBACH,
GRIFFITH CLARK,
JOHN KUNTZ,

GEORGE GIBSON,
DANIEL SHAEFFER,
JOHN JENNINGS.

Taverns and houses for the accommodation of the public were opened, from time to time, during the thirty-six years that the turnpike flourished, both in the borough and vicinity. A noted and well-conducted hostelry, that was liberally patronized by wagoners, some of the

stages, and the tide of westbound emigrants, that frequented the turnpike during its entire history, was the "Stone Tavern," east of Greensburg, near the site of the present residence of Mr. Robert Jamison. Another suburban inn, popular with rollicking characters and convivial parties, as



RESIDENCE OF MR. JOHN DORN.
West Pittsburg Street.

well as many wagoners, was situated on Bunker Hill. For the first half of the present century that eminence was a popular place (being a half-mile beyond the borough borders) for Independence Day celebrations, moonlight gatherings, militia meetings, wrestling contests and the arbitration of differences with the fists. On such occasions liquid refreshments were required and the tavern supplied them, order and decorum being enforced within its walls in the meantime by the knocking-down and dragging-out process.

SOME OLD INNS.

The hotel erected by Simon Drum, the elder, about 1791, on the southwestern corner of Main and West Pittsburg Streets, was the public house at which the United States officials held forth, while in Greensburg, during the Whiskey Insurrection. Both before and after the construction of the turnpike, that tavern always commanded a goodly patronage and was rated as first-class.

Horbach's hotel, located on the southeastern corner of Main and East Pittsburg Streets, was one of the pioneer inns. It was conducted by three generations of that family. Abraham Horbach, Sr., who succeeded his father as landlord, was a man of enterprise and large business capacity. He was a mail contractor, the owner of several stage lines and also a manufacturer of stage coaches. The Horbach hotel was a favorite stopping place for stages. A large stage barn and wagon yard, located east of Main and south of Third Street, which section was a green and houseless

suburb prior to 1840, were utilized in connection with the Horbach tavern.

A stone building, occupied for many years as a hotel, was erected by William Barnes, in 1796, on the northwestern corner of West Otterman Street and Pennsylvania Avenue



BUSINESS BUILDING AND APARTMENT HOUSE OF MR. JOS. W. STONER.
Corner East Otterman Street and Maple Avenue.

(place of the present dwelling of the late C. H. Stark). At that period the residents of this locality were not yet entirely free from apprehensions of attack from savages or other enemies. Although but two stories in height, Mr. Barnes made the solid walls of his building twenty-two inches in thickness, with the evident purpose of being able to speedily transform it from a tavern into a block house or fort, if an exigency should arise. That inn, under the direction of various landlords, was a noted wagon house, prior to and during the operation of the turn-pike.

The southeastern corner of West Pittsburg Street and Pennsylvania Avenue (site of the present Cope Hotel), and the northwestern corner of Main and West Otterman Streets (site of the present Null House), have been in continuous use for tavern purposes for more than a century.

Some conception of the nomenclature of Greensburg taverns, prior to 1820, may be formed from the following: "Sign of the Spread Eagle," "Sign of the Cross Keys," "White Hall Inn," "Sign of Captain Lawrence," "Sign of George Washington." In some instances, however, the inns were known by the names of the landlords in charge. A conspicuous wooden sign with a crudely-painted figure of a spread eagle or George Washington were the means of identifying the hotels so named.

Residents of Greensburg in 1817.

At the time of the incorporation of Greensburg, the population within the borough lines was about 425. According to



RESIDENCE OF HENRY R. EICHER.
East Greensburg.

the census report in 1810, the number of inhabitants was 685. In 1820 the aggregate was 776. At the latter period the population in detail was as shown below:

	Males.	Females.
Under 10 years of age.....	80	108
Of 10 and under 16.....	58	70
Of 16 and under 26.....	115	98
Of 26 and under 45.....	64	68
Of 45 and upwards.....	40	33
	366	377
		368
Number of white inhabitants.....		743
Number of black inhabitants.....		33
Total.....		776

Notwithstanding the building of the turnpike during the decade between 1810 and 1820, the increase appears to have been less than one hundred. At that period, however, and for some years previously, there was a steady and strong emigration movement to the westward, which carried with it many residents of Greensburg and other parts of Westmoreland county. Moreover, then as now Greensburg had a proportionately healthy growth just outside of the borough limits. Although those inhabitants, in their commercial and social relations, were a part of Greensburg, they were not included and would make no showing, of course, in the census enumeration of the borough.

A list of the taxable inhabitants of Greensburg, in 1817, is here presented as a matter of record, for the benefit of present and future students of the early



BUSINESS BUILDING OF MR. C. T. BARNHART.
Pennsylvania Avenue.

history of the county town, together with the tax assessed against them:

Armstrong, George, Esq., self.....	\$3.41	\$
do do for Jack's lots.....	29	
Armstrong, James	3.70	
Alexander, J. B., Esq.....	1.28	
Armbrust, John, painter.....	3.99	
Barnes, William.....	53	
Brady, James, Esq.....	1.29	
Brady, Hugh, merchant, single man...	77	
do do for Isett's house.....	1.14	
Bearer, John, butcher.....	1.91	
Barton, Henry, self.....	2.34	
do do for Jack's lot.....	80	
do do for Jack's lot.....	29	
Brown, Robert.....	1.09	
Biggert, Mrs.....	2.73	
Bautzley, Michael, self.....	43	
do do for Hugh's house.....	64	
Byerly, Benjamin, s. m.....	86	
Carr, Arthur.....	50	
Cook, David, s. m.....	3.11	
Cook, Joseph Jr., s. m.....	50	
Cust, John, merchant.....	50	
Clark, Griffith, self.....	2.80	
do do for Shaeffer's house.....	34	
do do for Shaeffer's house.....	3.57	
Coulter, Priscilla, widow.....	3.91	
Coulter, Eli, merchant, s. m.....	1.44	
Coulter, Richard, Esq., s. m.....	2.09	
Carpenter, Ephraim, s. m.....	71	
Capilly, M. P., merchant, self.....	50	
do do for Rohrer's house.....	3.46	
do do for Rohrer's house.....	2.86	
Conelly, John.....	6.32	
Collins, Joseph.....	21	
Clingan, Joseph, s. m.....	14	
Drum, Simon, Jr., Esq.....	64	
Drum, Jacob, s. m.....	2.77	
Hobbins, James, s. m.....	71	
Evans, Cadwalader, self.....	50	
do do for S. M. Reed's lot.....	7	
do do for S. M. Reed's lot.....	71	
Fleeger, Peter, s. m.....	78	
Fleeger, John.....	79	
Fleming, James.....	1.27	
Fullerton, Humphrey, Esq., sheriff, self...	6	
do do for Kuhns's house.....	1.57	
Findley, Jonathan S., teacher.....	2.55	
do do for Kuhns's house.....	1.30	

Foster, Alexander W., Esq., self.....	42	
do do for Stewart's house.....	2.14	
Freidt, William, s. m.....	2.56	
Guthrie, Samuel, Esq.....	1.17	
Graham, Jane, widow.....	1.81	
Grant, Daniel, constable.....	1.56	
Graham, Robert.....	66	
Gibson, George, self.....	1.50	
do do for Drum's house.....	33	
do do for Drum's house.....	7.11	
Hornish, John B.....	7.44	
Haynes, —, tailor, s. m.....	57	
Hargrave, John.....	50	
Herwick, Joseph.....	86	
Herwick, William, s. m.....	98	
Hill, John, tailor.....	1.01	
Hargrave, Richard, s. m.....	1.50	
Horbach, Abraham.....	64	
Hosteier, Joseph.....	7.20	
Herrold, Jacob, s. m.....	1.33	
Hableston, Henry, Rev.....	56	
Issett, Henry, hatter.....	6	
Jennings, John, nailor.....	3.76	
Jack, Wilson, merchant, self.....	66	
Jack, William, Esq.....	71	
Jackson, Richard.....	1.32	
Jack, Matthew.....	21	
Kuhns, John, tanner, home.....	36	
do do for Kuhns's house.....	3.84	
do do for Kuhns's house.....	1.72	
Kuhns, David, s. m.....	5.56	
Kuhns, Philip.....	71	
Kuhns, John, Jr.....	2.41	
Kerns, Joseph, hatter.....	9	
Kerns, Jacob, saddler.....	1.57	
Kesel, Jacob, shoemaker.....	3.01	
Kryder, John, timer.....	87	
Logan, Ben'n, for Ross's house.....	83	
Logan, widow, for McCasky's house.....	36	
Lowry, Andrew B. S.....	50	
McLaughlin, Randal, s. m.....	7	
Macklin, Frederick.....	75	
McLaughlin, Charles, self.....	1.75	
do do for Torney's house.....	9	
do do for Torney's house.....	50	
Mellville, John, weaver.....	59	
McCutcheon, James.....	44	
Montgomery, James, Esq.....	29	
Morrison, John Esq.....	21	
Morford, Lewis.....	2.94	
McGuire, Thomas, self.....	73	
do do for Jack's lots.....	1.49	
do do for Jack's lots.....	54	
McGuire, James, s. m.....	2.13	
do do for Jack's lots.....	64	

McLean, David, printer, s. m.....	64
McGuire, Patrick, Sr.....	44
McGuire, Patrick, saddler, s. m. self ..	70
do for Keras's house.....	57
McLelland, John	1.27
Mulherron, Edward, s. m.....	78
Morrow, Paul, Esq.....	57
Mitchell, Jesse, carpenter.....	3.00
Melville, James B. L. s., m.....	16
	56

McClintock, John, for Hamilt'n's house ..	29
Marchand, David, doctor.....	1.86
McDowell, Mrs., for McGuire's house..	1.00
Prater, Benjamin, doctor	30
Postlbwayte, James, doctor.....	2.60
Porter, John, barber.....	12
Probascoe, John, s. m., self.....	70
do for Carr's house.....	57
Reed, John, Esq.....	1.27
	2.14

Rohrer, George, teacher.....	37
Rohrer, Frederick, Esq.....	89
Rieley, William, s. m.....	57
Ross, Thomas, tinner.....	44
Rohrer, Frederick, saddler, s. m.....	64
Stake, Michael, Rev.....	1.46
Singer, Simon, self.....	30
do for Kerns's house.....	2.14
Singer, Samuel B. S.....	2.11
Steele, Joseph, self.....	93
do for Iselt's house.....	7
Syboth, Tobias, self.....	86
do for Rugh's house.....	9
Stewart, Margaret, widow.....	57
Smith, Moses, s. m.....	66
Schaeffer, John, merchant.....	1.00
Spencer, Christopher.....	57
Smith, John, nailor, self.....	3.44
do for Jack's lot.....	49
Straw, Michael, potter.....	1.23
Spayd, —, doctor, self.....	14
do for Kuhns's house.....	1.37
Torney, Adam, coppersmith, self.....	84
do for Mrs. McCully's house.....	26
Torney, Jacob, self.....	1.79
do for Singer's house.....	16
Torney, Daniel, self.....	1.07
do for Kerns's house.....	1.23
Torney, Simon, carpenter, s. m.....	1.34
Tower, Gad H., teacher.....	13
Underwood, Morrison, s. m.....	79
Underwood, James, printer, s. m.....	92
Waggoner, John, hatter.....	64
Williams, Robert, Esq., self.....	29
do for Jack's lot.....	50
Williams, John B., merchant.....	64
Williams, Robert, Esq., saddler.....	36
Wells, John, Esq.....	1.41
Welty, Henry.....	14
Welty, Henry, Jr., s. m.....	1.80
Welty, Jacob, merchant, s. m.....	2.79
Wynell, William, Rev. self.....	1.97
do for Hugus's house.....	57
Watt, Mrs.....	77
	7
	1.15
	1.22
	50



RESIDENCE OF MR. BENNETT RASK.
Hawthorne Avenue.

Watterson, James, }	71	William s, Nathan.....	6
Thomas, McGuire, agent. }		Wise, Jacob M., s. m.....	50
Wise, John H., s. m., self.....	57	Williams, William.....	2.29
do for Rohrer's house.....	71	Young, John, Esq.....	
	1 28	Total.....	\$ 179.21
West, Samuel.....	14		

First and Last Public Execution.

In December, 1785, at Hannastown, occurred the first execution west of the Allegheny mountains under the white man's laws. It was that of Mamaghtauquin, a Delaware Indian, and Joseph Ross, white. The Indian while intoxicated, had killed a man named Smith, on ground now embraced in Allegheny City, but which was then included in Westmoreland county. Ross, a young man, of questionable sanity, was accused and convicted of an unnatural crime, which was, at that time, punishable by death. Both were hanged on the same day by Sheriff Robert Orr.

It was nearly forty-five years thereafter when the next execution took place in this county. The culprit, on that occasion, was Joseph Evans, an illiterate and vicious man, not yet 22 years of age. With others he was employed on the Pennsylvania canal in Derry township, near Blairsville. On the night of December 31, 1829, during a drunken quarrel over a game of cards, Evans accidentally struck John Cissler with a shovel. Either from the blow, or because of his head coming in contact with an iron kettle, in the fall, Cissler sustained fatal injuries. Evans was tried and convicted of murder in the first degree before his honor, Judge John Young, in the county court at Greensburg. He expiated his crime on April 20, 1830. His was the first and last public execution at Greensburg. At 1 o'clock p. m., on the day named, the two local military companies, the Westmoreland Artillery, Capt. John B. Alexander, and the Greensburg Blues, Capt. Morrison Underwood, appeared in front of the Court House. Evans was brought from the jail in charge of Sheriff John Klingensmith, Jr., and attended by



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.
Corner Main and East Second Street.
First Building, 1833; 2d, 1851; Remodeled, 1883.

his spiritual advisers, Revs. Steck, Hacke, Laird and Mechling, together with a number of county officials and leading citizens. The battalion formed a hollow square, inclosing the condemned man. As the procession moved to the place of execution, Evans walked behind a cart containing his



RESIDENCE OF MR. D. M. IRWIN.
Junction of East Otterman and East Pittsburgh Streets.

coffin. The gallows was located on the east side of the borough, near a cluster of oak trees, the site now being covered by the tracks of the Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad. The exact spot is about 450 feet south of the junction of Brewery Avenue with Urania Avenue. Evans was cool and composed throughout all of the solemn proceedings. In his last words he attributed his ignominious end to gambling and strong drink, and admonished his hearers at all times to eschew those evils. The surging crowd present is said to have been the largest ever gathered in a single assemblage in Westmoreland county up to that time. It was estimated as high 10,000 and embraced persons from neighboring counties. The condition and conduct of many of the spectators indicated that they regarded themselves at a festival of Momus rather than in the presence of death. Thoughtful and sensible persons were shocked and expressed the earnest hope that this would be the last *public* execution, at least, that should ever take place in Greensburg. That hope was realized. Evans' body was interred under the gibbet, but it is said to have mysteriously disappeared during the night.

The Public Press.

Greensburg's first newspaper, or rather first two newspapers, bore the title of *The Farmers' Register*. One edition was printed in English and another in German. The initial number of *The Register*, in English, appeared May

24, 1799, and the first issue of the German edition not long thereafter. The founders of the two Registers were John M. Snowden and William McCorkle, his brother-in-law. Both were practical printers. After the completion of their apprenticeship, they were engaged for some time in the printing business in Philadelphia. Immediately prior to

coming to Greensburg, however, Messrs. Snowden & McCorkle had established a paper at Chambersburg, Pa.

Just how long the German edition of *The Farmers' Register* was published has not been ascertained. It is known, however, that it had an existence for, at least, three years. In addition to publishing their two papers, Messrs. Snowden & McCorkle printed almanacs and other books. On May 21, 1803, the firm dissolved partnership, Mr. McCorkle and his family returning to Philadelphia. The publication of *The Register* was continued by Mr. Snowden. In 1808 he disposed of *The Register* property to William S. Graham. The latter conducted the paper until his death, February 21, 1815. Mrs. Jane Graham, his widow, became his successor. James Underwood, Joseph Clingen and H. W. Peterson published *The Register* "for Jane Graham," at various periods, in the succession named, until October 10, 1818.

Although *The Register* was a Jeffersonian journal from the beginning, it was regarded by the active politicians of that faith as not being sufficiently vigorous in tone, after Mr. Graham's death. Accordingly, a new press and outfit were purchased by a number of leading party men. Frederick A. Wise, a practical printer and native of Greensburg, but then employed in Baltimore, was persuaded to return



RESIDENCE OF MRS. REBECCA BARCLAY.
North Main Street.

to this place and become the publisher of the new paper. By repaying the original contributors, he was to be permitted to acquire absolute ownership of the printing establishment and newspaper property, which he subsequently effected. The Westmoreland Republican was the title of the

new journal, and the first number was issued on Saturday, April 25, 1818. It was neatly printed and ably edited. Its rapid success evidently made marked inroad on the older paper, the name of which had been changed by Mr. Graham to The Westmoreland and Indiana Register, and, still later,

by Mrs. Graham, to Greensburg Register. The latter, in October, 1818, disposed of the subscription list and good will of her paper to the owners of The Republican. Immediately thereafter the office of The Republican was transferred to that of the Register, the two papers consolidated, and, for some time, published as The Westmoreland Republican and Greensburg Register. On April 15, 1825, the title was transformed to Westmoreland Republican and Farmers' Chronicle. Desiring to emigrate to the Mississippi Valley, Frederick A. Wise, in March, 1830, sold the newspaper property to Joseph Russell. In April, 1841, Mr. Russell associated David K. Marchand with him in its publication. Three years later Mr. Marchand purchased his partner's interest and became sole owner. Andrew Graham, in 1856, became part, and, in 1861, absolute proprietor of the paper. A year later James F. Campbell & Co. acquired the establishment, and in January, 1863, disposed of it to William A. Stokes.



RESIDENCE OF MR. R. S. JAMISON.
East Greensburg.

Meanwhile Edward J. Keenan and John Klingensmith, Jr., started a paper entitled, *The Greensburg Democrat*, the first impression being put forth on November 18, 1853. Klingensmith died in 1854, and, in 1857, Mr. Keenan associated his brother, William



RESIDENCE AND OFFICE OF DR. R. B. HAMMER,
South Main Street.

W., with him in the business. In June, 1858, the firm named was changed to James Keenan & Co., and embraced three brothers. James Keenan, who had been United States Consul at Hong Kong, died in 1862, and Edward J. having enlisted in the army, William W. Keenan became the sole proprietor of *The Democrat*.

On August 26, 1864, W. W. Keenan purchased *The Westmoreland Republican* from Mr. Stokes, and merged the two papers under the name *Republican & Democrat*. After the civil war Edward J. Keenan again acquired an interest in the property. On January 1, 1871, the Keenan brothers sold the establishment to Dr. W. J. K. Kline and his cousin, S. A. Kline, Esq. The latter, in October, 1872, transferred his interest to A. B. Kline, the firm then becoming Kline & Bro. Because of the seemingly confusing character of the title (the word *Republican* having lost its old-time association with the Democracy by reason of adoption as the name of a comparatively new opposing political party) was changed, on January 1, 1876, to *The Westmoreland Democrat*. Messrs. Kline & Bro., on November 22, 1882, sold *The Democrat* property to B. F. Vogle and T. R. Winsheimer, by whom the paper has since been, and is now, published.

Greensburgh Gazette was the name of the second English paper founded in this place. It was started by David Maclean, the first number being issued August 22, 1811. The *Gazette* was a Federalist journal. Mr. Maclean, in October, 1822, disposed of the establishment to Frederick J. Cope, and removed to Pittsburg, where, with his brother, he purchased *The Gazette*, of that city, and conducted it for seven years. John Black & Son succeeded Mr. Cope as the owners of the *Greensburgh Gazette*. The elder Black retiring

in 1832, his son, William F., became the editor and changed the title to The Westmoreland Intelligencer. On the death of the younger Black, not long thereafter, the ownership passed to Reece C. Fleeson. In February, 1834, John Ramsey bought the outfit, and, following his death, John Armstrong, Esq., senior, acquired the property in November, 1839.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. C. H. STARK.
Corner West Otterman Street and Pennsylvania Avenue.

Joseph Miller, late of Harrisburg, came to Greensburg, and, on February 9, 1838, issued the first number of a German paper, entitled Western Democrat. Notwithstanding the name, it was a Federalist, anti-Masonic journal. One year later, in February, 1839, Jonathan Row purchased the equipment and assumed the editorship, of the Western Democrat.

In May, 1840, Mr. Row discontinued the publication of the German paper and started an English periodical called The Greensburg Sentinel. It was a strong advocate of Gen. William Henry Harrison for President.

Jonathan Row, in February, 1842, sold The Sentinel to John Armstrong, Sr., owner of The Intelligencer, and the two papers were consolidated under the name of The Intelligencer and Sentinel. Mr. Armstrong retired as editor in May, 1844, leaving The Intelligencer and Sentinel in charge of his sons, James and Robert. In 1850 D. W. Shryock purchased the establishment, and, in advocacy of the American or Know Nothing party cause, changed the title to American Herald. Subsequently, on the organization of the Republican party, it was again changed to The Greensburg Herald.

James R. McAfee, Esq., on July 22, 1870, issued the first number of a new Republican paper—the Greensburg Tribune. In January, 1872, D. S. Atkinson and T. J. Weddell, Esqrs., bought The Herald outfit and good will from Mr. Shryock, and one month later, the papers were united, under the style of Tribune and Herald, with Messrs. McAfee, Atkinson & Weddell as

editors and owners. The latter, on January 18, 1874, sold his interest to the senior partners and withdrew from the



FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING.
Main Street.

firm. About April 1, 1882, John M. Peoples, Esq., became identified with the proprietorship of the Tribune and Herald and the firm name was changed to McAfee, Atkinson & Peoples. On the death of Mr. McAfee, in April, 1890, the newspaper property was purchased in its entirety by the surviving partners. A stock company, called Tribune Publishing Company, which was incorporated September 4, 1890, became possessed of the good will and printing establishment. The stockholders, constituting the company, were Messrs. D. S. Atkinson, John M. Peoples, W. J. Hitchman, George F. Huff, E. F. Houseman and Elmer E. Lyon. The capital stock, as stated in the charter, is \$25,000, divided into two hundred and fifty shares, of \$100 each. In the meantime, however, the Greensburg Daily Tribune had been established, the first number being issued February 4, 1889. The publication of the weekly, Tribune and Herald, was continued until June 10, 1896, when it was converted into a semi-weekly journal. Although there have been some subsequent transfers, as to the ownership of a part of the stock, both the daily and semi-weekly issues have since been and are now published by the Tribune Publishing Company.

The Pennsylvania Argus was established in 1832 by Messrs. Jacob S. Steck and George Rippey. Then, as now, it was Democratic in politics. Mr. Rippey died July 27, 1833, and his interest passed into the possession of Mr. Steck. The latter, during his editorial career, for a short time, also published a German paper, in connection with The Argus. Mr. Steck continued as owner and director of The Argus until 1839, when Jeremiah M. Burrell, Esq., subsequently President Judge of the Courts, purchased the establishment and assumed the editorship. In July, 1841, Joseph Cort succeeded Mr. Burrell as the owner and editor. He continued in that capacity until July, 1844, when he disposed of the outfit and good will to Messrs. Samuel S. Turney and William H. Hacke, both of whom were practical printers. Those gentlemen published the paper until 1850, when it was purchased by John M. Laird, Esq., also a practical printer and experienced news-

paper man. Mr. Laird continued in active direction of The Argus, with the assistance of his sons, in later years, until the time of his death, January 25, 1887. The ownership and editorship then passed to Messrs. James M. and F. V. B. Laird, sons of the deceased, by whom the paper is still conducted, under the firm name of John M. Laird's Sons.



RESIDENCE OF MR. E. H. BAIR.
North Main Street.

The Greensburg Press was founded by Messrs. James H. Ryckman and James B. Lanx. The initial number of the daily edition, called The Evening Press, appeared May 18, 1881. It was an independent, local journal. June 6, 1881, was the date of the beginning of the weekly issue, entitled The Greensburg Press, which was an avowed Republican paper. The printing press and outfit of type, which had been purchased by the gentlemen named, were the same that had been used at various times previously in the publication of Frank Cowan's Paper, The Democratic Times, The National Issue, and The Daily Evening News. Mr. Ryckman, at the end of three and one-half months, September 1, 1881, sold his interest to Hilary J. Brunot. Very soon thereafter Mr. Brunot became sole owner. In January, 1889, The Evening Press was changed from an independent to a Republican paper. The weekly issue was transformed into a semi-weekly in the spring of 1896. Although Mr. Brunot was the proprietor of The Press from 1882 until the autumn of 1897, its editorial management, during that period, was under the direction, at different times, of James B. Lanx and R. M. McCreary. About the middle of September, 1897, The Press establishment and good will were purchased by a number of gentlemen, who secured a charter of incorporation on October 25, 1897, as the Greensburg Press Company. The capital stock of the company is \$15,000, divided into one hundred



SECOND REFORMED CHURCH.
North Main Street.
First Building, erected 1851; second, 1880.

and fifty shares of \$100 each. Messrs. James S. Beacom, James B. Hammond, John M. Jamison, Walter J. Christy and David L. Newill constitute the stockholders. Mr. Christy is the editor of the several editions of The Press.

PAPERS OF THE PAST.

Western Press was the name of a German paper in existence at Greensburg in 1816. Although not definitely known, it is believed that its editor or publisher was Jacob Schnee. At that time Mr. Schnee conducted a German book store and printing office on Main Street. He printed German A B C books, almanacs and catechisms. His books were sold in Pittsburg and many of the cities and towns of Ohio.

Westmoreland News was the title of a Republican journal, started in Greensburg in 1862, and discontinued the following year. The editor was John B. Crooks.

Frank Cowan's Paper was established in May, 1872, by the gentleman whose name it bore. Its aim was to promote the development of the resources of Southwestern Pennsylvania. The publication was continued for three years.

The Democratic Times was published from September 1, 1875, until the spring of 1877, by Edward J. Keenan, Esq., B. F. Vogle, William P. Fischer and F. Ulam Rhorer. As the name indicated, it was a Democratic journal.

The National Issue, a Greenback party organ, was started in September, 1878, by Messrs. John T. Fulton, John Rugh, George W. Rumbaugh, William Armbrust and L. F. Armbrust. About April 1, 1881, The Issue establishment passed into possession of John T. Fulton and Rev. Uriel Graves. They began the publication, in addition to The Issue, of a paper

called The Daily Evening News. A month later the good will and printing outfit were sold to Messrs. Ryckman and Laux.

The Greensburg Record was founded April 1, 1886, by Messrs. Darwin Musick and Daniel P. Stahl. It was issued



RESIDENCE OF MR. I. OPPENHEIM.
North Harrison Avenue.

as a daily and weekly. Both were Democratic journals. The publication of the daily edition was discontinued in December, 1892, and the weekly on September 11, 1895.

The Independent was the name of a weekly paper, devoted to the interests of labor, established by L. F. Armbrust. The first number appeared August 6, 1887. It was published until July, 1894.

The Greensburg Sun was the title of a weekly, independent journal, the first and last issue of which was presented July 1, 1896. Its projectors were Messrs. Darwin Musick and George Wagoner.

Coming of the Railroad.

During the first half of the present century, Westmoreland's Senators and Representatives in the General Assembly were men of more than ordinary ability and influence in State affairs. They were vigilant in guarding, and tireless in trying to promote, the interests of the county which they represented. By their alertness and sagacity, they managed to have Westmoreland included in all the great internal improvements undertaken and fostered by the Commonwealth, such as the turnpikes, canals and railroads. Moreover, in those days citizens were likewise active in sustaining their Representatives by petitions, and county and town meetings, in which local sentiment was expressed by

formal resolutions, on matters of public concern. So it was when the railroad from the eastern to the western section of the State was proposed. Although the first train did not run through from Philadelphia to Pittsburg until December, 1852, the residents of Greensburg began preparing to effect

that notable event twenty years previously. A public meeting was held in Greensburg on April 19, 1836, at which the action of the Legislature, at a recent session, in passing an Act providing for the survey of a route from the western base of the Laurel Hill, by way of Greensburg, to Pittsburg, was highly approved. The survey was made by Engineer Charles DeHaas, under the direction of the Canal Commissioners. His report, made in January, 1837, was of a favorable character so far as related to that part of the route in the vicinity of Greensburg, which was specially mentioned as a point to be embraced in the line of the proposed road. The Act incorporating the Pennsylvania Railroad Company was passed by the Legislature on April 13, 1846, and the charter granted by the Governor on February 25, 1847.

Work on the construction of the Pennsylvania Railroad, in the immediate vicinity of Greensburg, began in the year 1849. That section of the line including the tunnel and the extensive embankments, fills or "dumps," for about one-half mile to the east, and the same distance to the west of the tunnel, was awarded to Contractor Michael Malone. The section west of the town, or Ludwick borough, which comprehended the old Radebaugh tunnel, was under the contract of Richard McGrann, Jr. Charles McCausland was the con-



DRUG STORE OF MR. H. F. THOMAS.
Pennsylvania Avenue.

tractor for the section to the eastward, beginning with the excavation or "cut" at the old Fair Grounds.

The tunnel, cut and large embankments on the north side of Greensburg, as can be readily imagined, was exceptionally heavy and tedious work. It required about three years for

the completion of that section. Contractor Malone had extensive blacksmith and repair shops, during the progress of the construction, located on the Commons, in the vicinity of what is now Tunnel Street, between North Maple Avenue and North Main Street. When the hour for ceasing labor arrived, at noon and night, a huge, sonorous horn was blown at the blacksmith shops and the army of men, with the hundreds of horses and carts, stretching in a continuous line from the "Y." east of Greensburg, to the western limits of Ludwick borough, presented a very animated spectacle in bustling for their quarters. The men employed were almost entirely hardy and light-hearted sons of Erin's isle. All the earth for the extensive embankments, east and west of the Greensburg tunnel, was transported in carts. In excavating for the tunnel, and the cuts on both sides, a large amount of heavy blasting was necessary. It was customary to prepare a score or two of blasts and discharge them simultaneously. At such times, the detonation was like the bombardment of an army. All the windows in the quiet town rattled under the force of the concussion, and the nervous housewives were seized with many fits and starts. The presence of the vast multitude of railroad laborers was frequently made manifest in the evenings and on wet days, about the village, by numerous fights and small riots. When not at work most of the laborers visited the barrooms and imbibed freely, the price of a prime brand of fighting whiskey



CARRIAGE WORKS CONDUCTED BY MR. H. M. GUY.
Corner East Pittsburg Street and St. Clair Avenue.

at that time being three cents a glass. Only in one instance, during the wet-day general drunks, however, did a fatal encounter occur. A man was mortally injured, in a maudlin quarrel, at a doggery on South Main Street, opposite the Masonic Temple. Comparatively few disputes or differences arose between employers and employes on the sections of

railroad construction in Greensburg and vicinity. A strike occurred in this locality in November, 1850. Because of the shortness of the days, or daylight, at that season, the contractors issued orders that wages of the common laborers be reduced, for a time, from one dollar to 87½ cents per day. It was against such reduction that the strike was inaugurated.

An adjustment was effected, however, after a week of idleness, and work resumed.

The first locomotive which entered Westmoreland county, crossed the western border. It arrived at Radebaugh's (two miles west of Greensburg) from Pittsburg on Monday, July 5, 1852. Intelligence as to the time and place of the first appearance of the "iron horse," had spread throughout the surrounding country for many miles. As a result, there was an immense crowd assembled to witness the unprecedented event. Many persons went from Greensburg to Radebaugh's on that day. An enterprising individual, with an eye on the main chance, had procured a license and was on the ground early with a liberal store of whiskey. As was to be expected, with such a large gala day gathering, the liquor dealer did a brisk business. It is almost needless to add that the usual consequences followed. There were numerous drunken fights, with the attendant bloody noses, contused eyes and broken heads. Visitors who were not addicted



RESIDENCE OF THE HEIRS OF JNO. ARMSTRONG, ESQ.
North Main Street.

drink and those who remained sober viewed the railroad engine with deep and curious interest. It was the first locomotive that nearly all of them had ever seen. It was scanned and studied in all its parts to discover, if possible, the secret of its hidden, mighty power. As the



RESIDENCE OF MR. WINFIELD S. LANE.
North Maple Avenue.

day of the "iron horse's" first visit to Westmoreland was the one immediately following Independence Day, which had fallen on Sunday, the occasion also embodied the festal and patriotic spirit of a Fourth of July demonstration.

The Railroad Company, on Thursday, July 15, 1852, began running trains regularly from Pittsburg to Radebaugh's. An accommodation train left Radebaugh Station at 6 o'clock, A. M., and arrived at Pittsburg at 8 o'clock, A. M. Returning, the train left Pittsburg at 6:30 o'clock, P. M., and arrived at Radebaugh at 8 o'clock, P. M. The fare either way was 80 cents.

FIRST LOCOMOTIVE INTO GREENSBURG.

Monday, November 29, 1852, was the most eventful day in the history of the railroad, so far as it affected Greensburg. A locomotive made its appearance for the first time, on that day, within sight of the borough. It passed and repassed over the large embankments on the east and west sides of the Greensburg tunnel. The purpose was to test the stability and safety of those massive fills. On the afternoon of that day, a train traversed the entire length of the railroad, without mishap, through Westmoreland county. Citizens of the borough generally, of all ages, sexes and conditions, gathered in the neighborhood of the railroad to observe the first train passing through from the east to the west. It was not until December 10, of that year, however, that the first train ran the whole distance from Philadelphia to Pittsburg.

A small frame station building was erected by the Railroad Company for the accommodation of its Greensburg patrons, on



ZION'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.
Corner Pennsylvania Avenue and West Second Street.
First Building, erected 1851; second, 1878.

the site of the present brick building. At the time the railroad was first put in operation, and, until 1860, the passenger station was outside of the borough limits. Notwithstanding that fact, however, the Board of Burgesses felt so kindly toward the new enterprise, that they had a plank walk constructed from the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and West Otterman Street to the railroad station, at the expense of the borough.

Pending the completion of the connecting link of the railroad, between Beatty's Station and Radebaugh's, passengers were conveyed from one point to the other by stage-coach. It may be here added, as a matter of historic interest, that, during the building of the railroad and for some time after its completion, there was much mournful murmuring of the distress and ruin that it would produce. It was claimed that the railroad would supplant all the wagons and stages, operating on the turnpike, and throw hundreds of persons out of employment, and render almost valueless the investments in the vast number of wagons and stage-coaches. It was likewise maintained that the railroad would divert travel from the turnpike, and thereby financially ruin all the innkeepers along that thoroughfare. While these claims were not without foundation, it was impossible then, as now, to check the spirit of progress. Wagoners, stage-coach owners and drivers, and turnpike tavern-keepers, gradually adapted themselves, but not without some pecuniary loss, no doubt, to the new conditions.

John Fullwood was the first ticket and freight agent of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Greensburg. Below is the schedule of the arrival and departure of trains at Greensburg, April 21, 1853:

Eastward.—Fast passenger train, 10:35 A. M.; second passenger train, 10:45 P. M.; accommodation to Latrobe, 7:06 P. M.; freight, 9:25 P. M.

Westward.—First passenger train, 4:16 A. M.; accommodation train, 6:05 A. M.; fast passenger train, 6:01 A. M.; freight, 12:20 A. M.

Freight rates.—Flour, to Philadelphia, 75 cents per barrel; whiskey, to Philadelphia, 40 cents per 100 pounds. All freight 20 cents lower than winter rates.

Both passenger and freight traffic increased very rapidly, from day to day, after the line was put in regular operation.



RESIDENCE OF MR. JOHN W. POLLINS.
Corner South Pennsylvania Avenue and Fourth Street.

For some time, immediately following the opening of the road, there were frequent delays and irregularities in the movement of the trains, as compared with the scheduled time. All such causes of complaint, however, were speedily overcome as the employes of the road became more familiar with their duties, and the imperfections in the road-bed were removed. The total tonnage of freight shipped from Greensburg, between January 1 and June 30, 1853, was 3,681,304 pounds. The official report of the Railroad Company, for the year 1853, showed that 17,319 passengers departed, and 15,553 arrived, at Greensburg, during that year, and that the cash receipts at the Greensburg station for passengers were \$14,698.17.

Some information as the kind of goods shipped from Greensburg is furnished in the annexed statement, which represents the freight dispatched from this place for the week ending January 31, 1854: 1,151 barrels of flour; 68 barrels of whiskey; 20 barrels of cloverseed; 5,744 pounds of pork; 430 reams of paper; 200 bushels of corn; 100 bushels of oats; 911 pounds of fresh butter; 392 pounds of lard; 55 dozen of brooms; and 2,571 dozen of poultry.

Prior to February 15, 1854, trains on the Pennsylvania Railroad crossed the Allegheny mountains by way of the old Portage road. On that day, however, the new line of the road, "without incline planes," was completed and put into use, together with the

big Gallitzin tunnel. Referring to this great achievement, a local paper, of that date, said: "The time between Greensburg and Philadelphia, by the Express train, will be 13 hours, 34 minutes; and between this place and Pittsburg, 1 hour and 15 minutes. This, truly, is annihilating time and space. But

a short time since a man thought he was doing well to make Philadelphia in 60 hours; now he can do it in one-fourth the time that he could then, and travel the same distance with infinitely less expense and fatigue. Verily, this is an age of progress."



RESIDENCE OF MR. GEORGE A. HAYS,
Harrison Avenue.

At the time the Pennsylvania Railroad was completed and put in operation, work on the proposed Hempfield Railroad, from Greensburg to Wheeling, W. Va., by way of Washington, Pa., was well advanced. In the autumn of 1853 there were from 1,500 to 2,000 men employed on the various sections in the labor of construction. It was estimated that the cost of the entire road, with the rolling stock, etc., would be \$2,986,778. A large proportion of that sum had already been subscribed or provided for. Opposition to the completion of the eastern part of the line; that is, from Washington to Greensburg, was manifested in various forms, by citizens of Pittsburg, who could not reconcile themselves to the idea of that city being passed by. The opposition was very active and finally crystallized in the building of the Chartiers road from Washington to Pittsburg, and in the ultimate abandonment of the eastern end of the Hempfield Railroad to Greensburg, the work on which had been well under way.

Another enterprise under serious consideration, about the same time, was the Uniontown Branch

Railroad, from Greensburg to Uniontown. It was a proposed branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad and was to be carried forward under the aid of that corporation. By an Act of the General Assembly, passed March 19, 1853, the Burgesses

of Greensburg were authorized to subscribe for not exceeding 1,000 shares of the stock of the Uniontown Branch road, and issue borough bonds therefor (\$50,000), provided the same was approved by the taxable inhabitants of Greensburg at an election to be held for that purpose. Such an election took place on March 7, 1854, and eighty-five votes were cast for the subscription, and seven against the same. The project, however, for some reason, likewise failed at that time, but a similar enterprise was carried to completion twenty years afterward, and is now recognizable in the thirty Southwest Pennsylvania Railway.

Still another railroad project, in which citizens of Greensburg, and some other sections of Westmoreland county, took a deep interest, in 1854, was a proposed line from Greensburg to connect with the Monongahela & Ravenswood Railroad, across the state of (West) Virginia to the mouth of the Big Sandy, on the Ohio river. It was intended that this road should connect with the Pennsylvania Railroad, at or near Greensburg, and act as a feeder to the same. A number of public meetings, pertaining to the enterprise, were held in Greensburg and delegates appointed to



RESIDENCE OF MR. L. KECK.
North Main Street.

attend similar meetings at Fairmount, and other points, in Virginia. The contemplated road, however, failed to materialize.



DRUG STORE OF MR. A. E. MARTIN.
Corner Main and East Pittsburg Street.

TELEGRAPH LINES.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company commenced preparations for a telegraph service within less than a year after trains began running regularly. A railroad telegraph line was erected through Westmoreland county in 1854. A telegraph system, with a single wire, had been constructed along the turnpike a few years previously. After the railroad telegraph line was completed, however, that aligning the turnpike fell into disuse, along with the thoroughfare itself, and the general business drifted to the railroad route. The telegraph office, for a number of years, was in a basement room of what is now the Fisher House, on West Pittsburg Street. There was no other office between Greensburg and Pittsburg.

At Greensburg, as well as elsewhere, when the telegraph was first introduced, less than sixty years ago, it was but vaguely or imperfectly understood by persons not familiar with the latest discoveries in science. It is said to have been a very ordinary sight, immediately following the erection of the line along the turnpike, to see persons standing on that highway at various points, viewing with wrapt interest the wire in both directions as far as it was within sight. The invariable explanation as to their purpose, on the part of such individuals, was that they were watching to

see a message go by. The notion which most persons, of ordinary intelligence, entertained at that early day seemed to be that the messages were transmitted after the manner of articles on a rope or "wire ferry," across a river or ravine.

Imagining that the message was an object, instead of an electric current, the curious spectators could not satisfy themselves as to just how the message passed the posts to which the wire was attached, and it was mainly to solve that mystery that the watchers desired to observe a message go by.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. MARY J. WOODS.
South Main Street.

Third Court House and Jail at Greensburg.

In the course of the decade between 1840 and 1850, the population of Westmoreland increased over 9,000, being greatly in excess of any like period in the preceding half century. The building of the Pennsylvania Railroad, together with the proposed construction of several other railroads through sections of the county, and the prospects of the early commencement of the active development of the great coal fields of Westmoreland, aroused the representative citizens to the belief that an era of unprecedented activity and prosperity, was about to dawn on this section. Accordingly the need of more modern and commodious public buildings was recognized. The erection of a new Court House and prison was generally discussed and approved. Formal recommendations to that effect were made by the grand jury and authorized by the court.

In conformity therewith, in the spring of 1853, County Commissioners Henry Swartz, Simon Detar and Jesse Walton adopted plans for a Court House, Sheriff's dwelling and prison, furnished by J. Edgar. Those plans were subsequently set aside, however, and a new plan, formulated by Architect



THIRD COURT HOUSE AT GREENSBURG.
Erected 1854.

Samuel Sloan, a resident of Philadelphia, but a native of Westmoreland, were substituted. A contract was entered into with Messrs. Bell & Arnold to remove the old buildings and erect the new ones. The price concluded upon was \$46,700, with allowances for extra work.

Very soon thereafter the building of the Sheriff's house and jail was commenced. These buildings were located on lot No. 6, (see plan, page 13), which the county had acquired. They aligned on the west side of the alley, the Sheriff's dwelling running out to and facing on West Pittsburg Street. The house was a large two-story stone and brick structure. Immediately back of and connected with the Sheriff's dwelling was the county prison, a two-story stone building. Entrance to the corridor of the jail was through the main hallway of the Sheriff's house, the two being divided or separated by a large iron grating and an inside iron door. The prison contained ten cells on the first floor and a like number in the second tier. In the basement were four dungeon apartments. The corridor of the jail extended from the first floor to the roof, in which was a skylight. The Sheriff's house was ready for roofing in December, 1853, and the heavy foundation walls of the jail had been laid, but work on the latter was discontinued for several months because of cold weather. In the east side of the Sheriff's house, on the first floor, were several spacious office rooms, entrance to which was by way of the alley.

Early in April, 1854, the contractors began tearing down the old jail, in the rear of the Court House, on the Court

House lot (see diagram, page 37). During the interval between the demolition of the old prison and the completion of the new one, the prisoners were kept in the Allegheny county jail. The work of razing the old Court House commenced

the first week in May, 1854. In the meantime, some of the county offices were removed to the office apartments in the new Sheriff's house, while others occupied the old office buildings on the Court House lot. In August of that year, however, all the county offices were removed to the Sheriff's house. The May term of court, 1854, was held in the basement of the Methodist church, then a comparatively new building. The courts at all subsequent terms, until the completion of the present Court House, in 1856, sat in that church.



RESIDENCE OF MR. JAMES C. WENTZELL,
West Newton Avenue.

LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE OF THE COURT HOUSE.

About the only notable formality in connection with the new Court House was in the laying of the corner stone. The proceeding took place on Tuesday, October 24, 1854, in the presence of a large and representative assemblage. Officers for the meeting had been selected by the Board of County Commissioners, and were announced by Major William H. Hacke, clerk of the Board, as follows :

President—Gen. Henry D. Foster.

Vice Presidents—John Armstrong, Sr., Esq., Samuel Hill, Esq., Major Joseph Jack, General C. P. Markle, Peter Uncapher, Dr. B. R. Marchand, Dr. John Morrison, John Kuhns, Esq., John Snodgrass, Esq., Dr. Thompson Richardson, John Covode, Dr. Baldrige.

Secretaries—Messrs. Marchand and Graham, of The Westmoreland Republican; Laird and Rook, of The Pennsylvania Argus; Keenan and Klingensmith, of the Greensburg Democrat; D. W. Shryock, of the Westmoreland Intelligencer, and Major Israel Uncapher.



RESIDENCE OF MR. JOHN V. STEPHENSON.
Corner Park Street and Walnut Avenue.

After a few introductory remarks by the President of the meeting, he called upon Rev. Mr. Valentine, who opened the exercises with a beautiful and appropriate petition to the Throne of Grace. David K. Marchand, one of the Secretaries, then read a list of the articles to be deposited in the corner stone, as follows:

1. Early history of Western Pennsylvania and of the West, including an account of the burning of Hannastown, said to be from the pen of the late Judge Coulter.
2. English and German Bibles.
3. First annual Report of the State Agricultural Society of Pennsylvania.
4. Williamson's Traveling Guide through the United States and Canada.
5. Thomson's Autographical Counterfeit Detector.
6. Thomson's Coin Chart Manual.
7. Map of the Borough of Greensburg.
8. English and German Almanacs for 1854 and 1855.
9. Newspapers—Weekly National Intelligencer, Semi-Weekly National Intelligencer, Washington Globe, Washington, D. C.; The Westmoreland Republican, Westmoreland Intelligencer, The Pennsylvania Argus, Greensburg Democrat, Greensburg, Pa.; Valley Democrat, Ligonier; Daily Union, Daily Morning Post, The Evening Chronicle, Western Republican, (German), Pittsburg, Pa.; The Pennsylvanian, The National Argus, Philadelphia, Pa.; the Keystone, Harrisburg Union,

Harrisburg, Pa.; New York Tribune, Weekly Herald, New York.

10. Stamps of the Seals of the County Officers of Westmoreland county, with the autographs of the respective Officers.



RESIDENCE OF MR. F. Y. CLOPPER.
Corner West Pittsburg Street and Oakland Avenue.

11. Certificate of the County Commissioners of the laying of the corner stone, signed by them and the contractors.

12. Sample of Westmoreland Corn, raised by Alex. Hitchman, of Mt. Pleasant, Pa. Sample of Westmoreland County Wheat, presented by Ramsey & Neely, millers, Greensburg,

Pa. Sample of Westmoreland County Oats, presented by Alex. Hanna, Esq., South Huntingdon township, Westmoreland county, Pa. Sample of Westmoreland County Rye, presented by Jesse Walton, Esq., of Franklin township, Westmoreland county, Pa. Sample of Westmoreland County Buckwheat, presented by Simon Detar, Esq., of Hempfield township, Westmoreland county, Pa.

13. An Engraving, being a relic from the Congressional Library which was destroyed by fire on the 24th of December, 1851, with the respects of Linn Boyd, Speaker of H. R., presented by Col. D. K. Marchand.

14. List of the National, State and County Officers of the United States of America, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, County of Westmoreland and Borough Officers for Greensburg borough, for 1854.

15. Seventh Annual Report of the Directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

16. List of the County Officers of the State of Pennsylvania.

17. An abstract of the Seventh Census, 1850, showing the population of the several Counties of Pennsylvania.



UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH.
 Corner West Otterman Street and Bruston Avenue.
 First Building, erected 1857; second, 1879.

18. A Statement of the Receipts and Expenditures of Westmoreland County for 1852. Reports of County Auditors.

19. List of Churches, Congregations and Pastors worshipping in Greensburg.

20. Autographs of the Attorneys of the County.

21. Declaration of Independence, Constitution of the United States and of the State of Pennsylvania.

Messrs. Simon Detar, Jesse Walton and Alexander Hanna, County Commissioners, and William Bell and John Arnold, the contractors, next placed the copper box, containing the deposits, in the corner stone. Following that proceeding, the stone was put in position at the southeast corner of the proposed Court House. When it was announced that the stone had been firmly and properly laid, Edgar Cowan, Esq., delivered a fitting, scholarly and eloquent address. The ceremonies closed with a benediction, pronounced by Rev. Mr. Geisy.

The building operations progressed in a satisfactory manner until August, 1855. Differences then arose between the contractors and Commissioners as to whether the specifications were being fulfilled. By mutual consent, the contract with Messrs. Bell & Arnold was cancelled. An agreement was then made with Messrs. Johnston & McFarland to complete the work, for \$28,688, and reasonable compensation for changes or extras. According to the provisions of the compact, the court room was to be in condition for holding the May term, 1856, and all the work finished by August, of that year. That result was attained, both as to the public buildings and surroundings. It was carefully estimated at that time that the total cost of the Court House, Sheriff's dwelling and the jail, with the outside work on the

lots, aggregated \$100,000. Many persons imagine that the Court House is constructed entirely of stone. Such, however, is not the case. The east (front) and south sides of the building are composed of cut stone, but the west and north walls

are brick, covered with cement and skillfully scored to represent stone.

COURT HOUSE BELLS.

That now in use is the second Court House bell purchased by the county. Neither bell nor belfry adorned the primitive log and plank cabin erected in 1786. When that building was supplanted by the pretentious brick structure of 1798, with its lofty cupola, a bell was deemed necessary in connection with the other modern features then introduced. One was procured from Joseph Hostetter at a cost of \$134.25. Thirteen years later the first bell was removed to make way for a more massive one cast by George Hedderly, of Philadelphia. Its cost and carriage from the Quaker City was \$442.97. Messrs. James Estep, Andrew Finley and Joseph Collins constituted the Board of County Commissioners that made the change. For nearly ninety years its iron tongue has saluted the ears of citizens of Greensburg, running the gamut of almost every human passion. In years past it has pealed joyously when the blushing daughters of the village were led to Hymen's alter, and tolled in slow and solemn measure when their white-haired fathers paid the debt of nature. It has sternly called the lagging youth, with shining morning face, to school; it has convened the sage citizens in town meeting for the consideration of borough concerns or weighty affairs of state. It has rang for exhibitions of negro minstrelsy, and has prompted the seri-



BUSINESS BUILDING OF MR. ISRAEL GLUNT.
Corner East Pittsburg Street and Maple Avenue.

ous and devout to repair to the sanctuary. Its clarion tones have broken the midnight stillness, in bidding a last farewell to the closing year, or arousing the slumbering inhabitants to gaze in terror upon the lurid glare of the fire demon.

It clanged exultantly over Perry's brilliant victory on Lake Erie and the fall of the City of Mexico; and sounded sadly for many hours, in keeping with the throbs of the sorrowing hearts of the people, when Abraham Lincoln, the great President, during the civil war, was struck down by the the foul hand of an assassin.



RESIDENCE OF MR. FRIEDOLAN MILLER.
East Fourth Street.

Exciting War-Time Incident.

Like every other community throughout the country, Greensburg was thrown into a state of great excitement on Saturday morning, April 15, 1865, by the startling intelligence that President Lincoln had been assassinated the night before. The fact that the assassin had not been apprehended added to the intense anxiety of the public mind. Some conception can, therefore, be formed of the effect on this community of the receipt, on Monday, April 17, by the Provost Marshal, at Greensburg, of a telegram announcing that a man suspected to be John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of the President, was a passenger on the Fast Line, westward, which would arrive at Greensburg shortly before one o'clock, noon. This sensational information spread throughout the town like an alarm of fire. Even the coolest and most sedate citizens became feverish with excitement and rushed to the railroad station. In the meantime,

a company of soldiers belonging to the Invalid Corps, quartered at this place in connection with the Provost Marshal's office, was hastily brought forth by the commander, Captain Leddy, and marched under arms to the depot. An immense crowd had assembled. When the train



RESIDENCE OF JOHN F. WENTLING, ESQ.
North Main Street.

arrived the soldiers were lined on both sides of the track. A number of officers entered the cars, while the multitude without surged and swayed in eager expectancy. After some minutes of suspense, a small, dark-complexioned man, with a black mustache, and wearing on his head an oil cloth cap, was dragged forth by the officers. The soldiers surrounded the terrified individual and he was taken, under military guard, to the Provost Marshal's office, at the corner of East Otterman Street and St. Clair Avenue, followed by the thoroughly aroused crowd. Many of the agitated spectators, who had read descriptions of the personal appearance of the assassin, were satisfied that the man in custody was John Wilkes Booth. At the Provost Marshal's office all persons not connected therewith were excluded, and the crowd kept at a respectful distance from the building by a military guard. A searching examination of the prisoner took place, but some time elapsed before the feverish curiosity of the citizens, as to the result, was appeased. The investigation developed the fact that the suspected man was one Emerson Davis, a citizen of the State of Illinois, and that he was or had been a traveling agent of the Christian Commission. He was kept under arrest for nearly a week, however, until the authorities satisfied themselves beyond all doubt that he was guiltless of any connection with the awful tragedy.

Had he been the murderer of the Chief Executive, doubtless, he would have been sorely tried by remorse on Wednesday, April 19, the date of the funeral obsequies of the deceased President. On that day, in Greensburg, all business was

suspended and there was a solemn hush resting on the town, which was emphasized by the mournful tolling of the Court House and church bells from 6 o'clock A. M. until 12:30 P. M.

Fourth County Jail at Greensburg.

At no time, after its completion and occupancy, was the stone jail, erected in 1853-4, satisfactory in the important features of security and ventilation. The atmosphere became fetid and breaches of prison were frequent. In 1865 it was decided that some action was necessary as to the jail. There was a division of sentiment among the county officials on the question of whether a new prison should be built or the existing one rearranged and repaired. A grand jury, charged with the task of making a thorough investigation of the matter, recommended the latter course. Changes were accordingly made at a cost of about \$8,500. Four iron or steel cells, the walls, floor and ceiling all being of that material, were constructed on the first floor, as affording greater security against jail breaking, and a sewerage system, extending 1,200 feet, for bettering the noisome atmosphere, were among the principal improvements introduced.



STABLES AND PUBLIC HALL OF MR. JOHN C. SONDLER,
South Maple Avenue.



FOURTH COUNTY PRISON AT GREENSBURG.
Erected 1883.

[99]

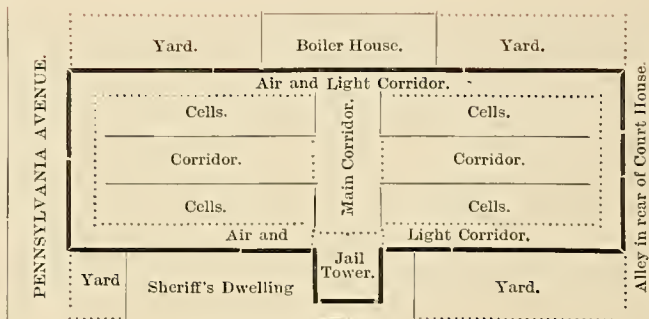
Although the remodeling partially corrected the defects, it did not entirely remove them. In 1882 the old prison was condemned by the State Board of Public Charities and the grand jury advised the building of a new one. Such a course was determined upon by the County Commissioners. As the ground on which the old jail stood was insufficient for the proposed new one, the adjoining lot, No. 5 (see plan page 13), was purchased by the county from Mr. George Dorn, the consideration being \$14,000, which, of course, also represented the value of the buildings erected thereon and subsequently torn down. In the two lots was secured a frontage of 125 feet on West Pittsburg Street, and a depth, aligning on the alley and Pennsylvania Avenue, of 110 feet. Plans and specifications for the new Sheriff's dwelling and prison were prepared by Architect E. M. Butz, who had but shortly before acted in the same professional capacity in connection with the new Western Penitentiary, at Riverside. Mr. Butz's plans met the approval of and were adopted by the County Commissioners and the court. The contract for the erection of the buildings was awarded to Messrs. Huckenstein & Co., of Allegheny City, on April 6, 1883, the bid of that firm being \$134,700. Both the dwelling and prison were completed and ready for occupancy in December, 1884. The total cost of the several structures, with the improvements on the lot and the interior furnishings, was about \$155,000.

The Westmoreland county jail is pronounced by competent judges one of the best in Pennsylvania. It is absolutely secure and modern and complete in all its appointments. The

proportions of the Sheriff's residence are 40x49 feet; the main structure, or jail building, 46x125; the jail tower 25x25, and 104 feet in height; and the boiler house, 20x25 feet. Iron, stone and brick were the only materials used in the construction of the prison, excepting the window frames and sash, which are of wood. It is pronounced fire-proof throughout and cannot be destroyed either purposely or by



RESIDENCE OF MR. JAMES B. ROBINSON.
South Pennsylvania Avenue.



WEST PITTSBURG STREET.

PLAN OF THE INTERIOR OF THE JAIL.

accident. There are three prison departments in the main jail building—two for males and one for females. In the male departments are seventy-two steel cells, and in the female section five, making in the three tiers a total of seventy-seven cells, capable of quartering two hundred prisoners. Every one of the cells is supplied with a wash-basin and water-closet. All the cells are eight feet square and a like distance in height. The walls of the cells are composed of one-fourth inch steel plate, and the floors and ceilings of five-inch flag stone. The female ward is entirely separate from the male, being located over the guard room, and is only accessible through the

Sheriff's office in the tower. All the cells are four feet from the outer walls of the building, leaving an air and light corridor between the walls and the rear of the cells. As the rear sections of the cells are grated, by this arrangement, the jail guard can have a full view of the interior of the cells. Pris-

oners can be admitted to the exercise corridors, which are 16x40 feet, without having access to the main jail hall. From the several platforms, in the latter, the guard can constantly keep the corridors on either side under scrutiny. Prisoners cannot gain entrance to the air and light corridors. The purpose of dividing the jail into two compartments is that the prisoners awaiting trial or sentence, and those serving sentence, may be separated.

Between or connecting the Sheriff's dwelling and prison is the lofty tower. The main entrance to the latter is reached by a covered walk along the east side of the Sheriff's house. On the first floor of the tower, of course, is the doorway to the central hall of the prison; on the second floor are the Sheriff's office and the guard room, while on the third floor are the hospital department and prisoners' bath rooms.

The heating of the jail is on the fan system. There are two blowing and one exhaust fans. Fresh air is taken in at an air-shaft on the west end of the building, at a distance of eighty feet above the ground, drawn down the shaft, forced through two heating chambers, containing radiators, thence distributed through warm air ducts, and thence through registers to the cells. The vitiated air is exhausted through flues from each cell, connected with the main vitiated air ducts in the basement; thence it is forced up through a main in the east end of the building.



RESIDENCE OF DR. LEMUEL OFFUTT,
West Otterman Street.

SEVERAL MORE RECENT EXECUTIONS.

But one execution took place in the stone jail built in 1853. A culprit named Hugh Corrigan, however, had been sentenced to death but cheated the gallows. Corrigan was a resident of Derry township, in 1856, and had murdered a woman

who was living with him as his wife. He burned her body in a brush-heap in the hope of concealing his crime. Being detected, he was arrested, tried, convicted and the death penalty imposed. A few nights before the date fixed for his execution, he committed suicide through the agency of poison.

Samuel Beighley, a native of Washington township, was hanged in the stone jail on January 20, 1875. Beighley had laid in wait and deliberately murdered Joseph Kerr, a farmer and shoemaker, residing in Franklin township. His guilt was easily established, and he confessed the same to his spiritual advisers before his death. Beighley was but twenty-one years of age. Although reared in a good family, by respectable parents, both as a boy and young man Samuel evinced a vicious and depraved disposition. The unpleasant duty of fulfilling the stern mandate of the law was performed by Sheriff John Gufley. The remains of the deceased were interred in Washington township.

A double execution occurred in the present prison on Thursday, July 18, 1895. It devolved upon Sheriff P. F. McCann to carry out the extreme penalty of the law at that time. William Freeman and John Good, both colored, were the names of the men who expiated the crime of bloodguiltiness. Both were natives of Virginia and aged twenty-seven years. Freeman had been convicted of the murder of his mistress, Gertrude Timberlake. The tragedy took place in a room adjoining the barroom in the Hotel Simpson, Mt. Pleasant, on the



UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
Corner West Third Street and Pennsylvania Avenue.
Erected 1880.

evening of July 26, 1894. Freeman and the woman had been conducting a disorderly house at Mt. Pleasant, and quarreled about the division of the money realized. Freeman drew a revolver and shot the female, inflicting a mortal



RESIDENCE OF MR. ISRAEL GLUNT.
Corner North Main and Park Streets.

wound. John Good was found guilty of the willful killing of another colored man, named Max Slaughter, at the village of Morewood, on November 29, 1894. With other colored coke workers, they had been engaged in the negro game of "craps."

There was considerable drinking and quarrelling. Slaughter's wife went after her husband and was taking him home. Good followed. As Slaughter was about to enter his house, Good fired the fatal shot and the former fell dead in his own doorway. After the execution, on July 18, 1895, the remains of Good and Freeman were interred in one large grave in a section of the new St. Clair cemetery set apart for the burial of colored persons.

Borough Boundaries.

The original boundaries of the borough of Greensburg are defined in the first section of the Act of incorporation (see page 23). Those outlines are more intelligibly shown in the early plan of Greensburg, presented on another page. No change in the corporate limits occurred for sixty-one years after the establishment of the borough. On March 30, 1860, what was entitled a "Supplement to an Act to erect the town of Gretnesburgh, in the county of Westmoreland, into a borough, ap-



THE BARCLAY BANK BUILDING.
Main Street,

proved February 9, 1799," was enacted. Under that statute, the boundaries were enlarged, as described below :

"Beginning at a point in the centre of the track of the Pennsylvania Railroad, immediately over the centre of the arch which passes the Greensburg and New Alexandria road; thence north $66\frac{1}{2}$ degrees west 1,682 feet to the northeast corner of the Greensburg academy grounds; thence south 87 degrees west 1,284 feet to a point in the centre of the Greensburg and Harrison City road; thence along the centre of said Greensburg and Harrison City road, to the centre of the track of said Pennsylvania Railroad; thence along the centre of the track of said railroad to the corner of the borough of Ludwick; thence along the east side of said borough of Ludwick south $17\frac{1}{2}$ degrees west 346 feet to a point in the centre of the Greensburg and Pittsburg turnpike; thence along the centre of said pike north 82 degrees west 192 feet; thence south 891 feet to the centre of the old Greensburg and Pittsburg turnpike; thence along said old turnpike south 82 degrees east 330 feet; thence along a road leading from said old turnpike to the Greensburg and New Stanton road south 34 degrees east 1,521 feet; thence along said Greensburg and New Stanton road north 53 degrees east 700 feet; thence along the east side of a road leading to the Greensburg and Mount Pleasant road south 32 degrees east 350 feet; thence south $53\frac{1}{2}$ degrees east 1,020 feet, to a point in the centre of the Greensburg and Mount Pleasant road; thence south 21 degrees east 266 feet; thence north 80 degrees east 250 feet; thence north 22 degrees east 3,010 feet, to a point in the centre of the Greensburg and Stoystown turnpike; thence north $9\frac{1}{2}$ degrees east 1,238 feet to the centre of the track of the Pennsylvania Railroad, immediately over the centre of the arch which passes the Sewickley creek; thence along the centre of the track of said Pennsylvania Railroad south $74\frac{1}{2}$ degrees west 593 feet to the place of beginning."

The next extension of the borough lines was on the north side. In February, 1891, residents and property-owners of that suburban locality, who suffered many inconveniences, petitioned the court for the "Annexation of a part of Hempfield township to Greensburg borough." There was some division of sentiment at that time as to just what course would be the most expedient. A few of the citizens and real estate owners, of the section affected, did not approve of any change. Still another element desired the establishment of a new and separate borough. On April 5, 1891, persons favoring the latter course applied to the court for the incorporation of the "Borough of North Greensburg." After various pro-

ceedings before the court, and some readjustment of the lines of the territory as first proposed, the petition for the annexation of that section, to the borough of Greensburg, was granted on February 20, 1892, and all exceptions dismissed. In the approved



RESIDENCE OF MRS. JOHN W. TURNEY.
West Pittsburg Street.

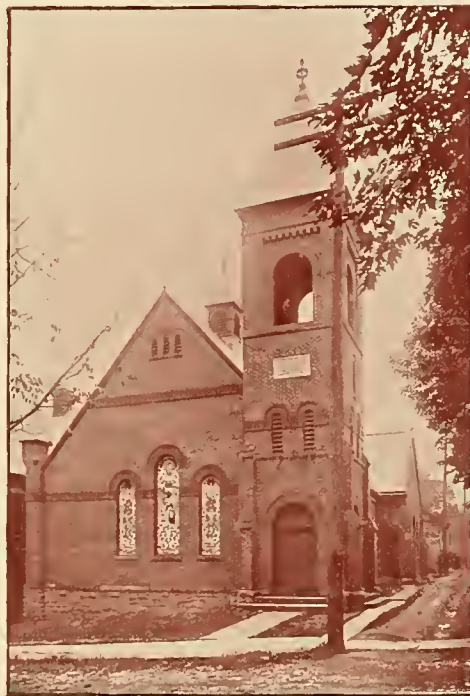
petition it was stated "that the said limits so desired to be annexed include a part of the plan of lots laid out by the Culbertson heirs, John Barclay, Dr. Metzgar, Jehu Taylor's estate and Joseph J. Johnston, Esq., and a collection of houses, collected after a regular plan in regard to streets and lanes." The description of the annexed territory in detail is as follows:

"Beginning at a point at the northeast corner of Academy lot; thence northern boundary of Greensburg borough south 87 degrees west 1,284 feet to a point; thence through the Harrison City road north 18 degrees 5 minutes west 215 feet to a point; north 20 degrees 25 minutes east 663.5 feet to the northwest corner of Barclay plan of lots; north 33 degrees 10 minutes east 911 feet through Salem road to the northwest corner of Dr. Metzgar's plan of lots; north 74 degrees 10 minutes east 288.6 feet to the northwest corner of said plan; south 12 degrees east 919.8 feet to a point at northerly line of Best Street; north 77 degrees 25 minutes east 502 feet along Best Street to a point; south 12 degrees 35 minutes east 664.2 feet to Grant Street; north 77 degrees 25 minutes east 320 feet to an alley; thence south 12 degrees 35 minutes east 674 feet to a point; north 66 degrees 15 minutes west 1,037.2 feet to the place of beginning."

BUNKER HILL BOROUGH ANNEXED.

An Act of Assembly, approved June 6, 1893, to promote the merging of abutting or contiguous boroughs, was regarded so favorably by many of the citizens of Greensburg and Bunker Hill boroughs, that the consolidation of the latter with the former was proposed. To afford the residents of both places an opportunity to give expression to their sentiments on the subject, in an orderly and legal manner, the annexed joint agreement was executed between the Burgesses of the two boroughs:

WHEREAS, The Burgesses and Inhabitants of the Borough of Greensburg, in the County of Westmoreland, and the Borough of Bunker Hill, two boroughs, duly incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, are adjacent and are of such compact and contiguous territory as to form one municipal division, and



CHRISTIAN CHURCH.
West Second Street.
Erected 1891.

WHEREAS, The said boroughs are desirous of being consolidated into one borough, so that all the property, rights, franchises and privileges now vested in both of said boroughs may be transferred and vested in the new borough formed by such consolidation, as provided by Act of Assembly, approved the 6th day of June, 1893, entitled "An Act to provide for the consolidation of boroughs and the government and regulation thereof,"

Now this joint agreement, made and concluded this 29th day of January, A. D. 1894, by and between the Burgesses and Inhabitants of the Borough of Greensburg, in the County of Westmoreland, of the one part and the Borough of Bunker Hill, of the other, witnesseth that it is hereby agreed that the aforesaid Boroughs, to-wit: The Burgesses and Inhabitants of the Borough of Greensburg, in the County of Westmoreland, and the Borough of Bunker Hill shall be consolidated into one Borough and shall embrace all the territory now comprised in both of the Boroughs aforesaid.

That the Borough formed by such consolidation shall be known as "The Borough of Greensburg."

That said Borough of Greensburg, so formed by said consolidation, shall be divided into five wards, the territorial boundaries of which shall be as follows:

Ward number one shall embrace all that portion of the present Borough of Greensburg which is situated west of Main Street and north of Pittsburg Street.

Ward number two shall embrace all that portion of the present Borough of Greensburg which is situated east of Main Street and north of Pittsburg Street.

Ward number three shall embrace all that portion of the present Borough of Greensburg which is situated east of Main Street and south of Pittsburg Street.

Ward number four shall embrace all that portion of the present Borough of Greensburg situated west of Main Street and south of Pittsburg Street.

Ward number five shall embrace all the territory now embraced in the present Borough of Bunker Hill.

That this agreement shall be submitted to the qualified electors of each of the said Boroughs, on Tuesday, 20th of February, 1894, which election shall be held by the regularly constituted election officers in and for said Boroughs, and in accordance with the provisions of the laws of this Commonwealth regulating elections by the people.

In witness whereof, the Burgesses and Inhabitants of the Borough of Greensburg, in the County of Westmoreland, has caused this agreement to be signed by its Chief Burgess, and attested by the Town Clerk and has caused its corporate seal to be hereunto affixed, and the Borough of Bunker Hill has caused this agreement to be signed by its Burgess and attested by the Secretary of the Town Council and has caused its corporate seal to be hereunto affixed.

J. COVODE REED.

Chief Burgess of the Burgesses and Inhabitants of the Borough of Greensburg, in the County of Westmoreland.

A. G. MARSH, Town Clerk.

G. W. MILLER,

Burgess of Borough of Bunker Hill.

J. H. JOHNSTON, Secretary.

In conformity with the provisions of the foregoing agreement, a vote was taken at the general election on Tuesday, February 20, 1894, in both boroughs on the proposition for consolidation. The result of the ballot in Greensburg was as follows :



RESIDENCE OF MR. J. RAPPE MYERS.
North Main Street.

	WARDS.				Total.
	1	2	3	4	
For consolidation.....	182	80	61	129	452
Against consolidation.....	61	37	48	87	233

Annexed was the expression of the electors of Bunker Hill borough :

For consolidation.....	150
Against consolidation.....	14

It being evident that a very large majority of the citizens desired that thereafter the two boroughs should be one, and the same being officially reported to the Chief Executive of the Commonwealth, the union was consummated in the form subjoined :

LETTERS PATENT—Greensburg and Bunker Hill—Consolidation: In the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Executive Department.

To All Whom These Presents Shall Come, Greeting :

WHEREAS, In and by an Act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth, entitled, "An Act to provide for the consolidation of Boroughs and the government and regulation thereof," approved the 6th day of June, A. D. 1893, it is inter alia provided in the first section thereof that two or more Boroughs, duly incorporated under the laws of this Commonwealth, of such compact and contiguous territory as to form one principal division, may be consolidated into one Borough. And it is further provided, in section two of said Act that the Town Council of each Borough may enter into a joint agreement, under the corporate seals of each Borough for the consolidation thereof; and that such agreement shall be submitted to the qualified electors of each of the said Boroughs at an election to be held therein, provided the returns of which election shall be endorsed upon the joint agreement, and the agreement so adopted, or a certified copy thereof, with all its

endorsements, shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and, upon the filing thereof, the Governor shall cause letters patent to be issued, under the great seal of the State, erecting the said consolidated Boroughs into one corporation, by the name set forth in the joint agreement; and

WHEREAS, It appears from the certified copy of the joint agreement entered into by The Burgesses and Inhabitants of the Borough of

Greensburg, of the County of Westmoreland, and the Borough of Bunker Hill, for the consolidation of said Boroughs, together with the returns of the election held for the ratification of said joint agreement by the election of said Boroughs, on the 20th day of February, A. D. 1894, as filed in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, that a majority of the electors of each of said Boroughs, voted in favor of the ratification of said joint agreement; and

WHEREAS, The requirements of the above recited Act of the General Assembly have been fully complied with by the said The Burgesses and Inhabitants of the Borough of Greensburg, in the County of Westmoreland and the Borough of Bunker Hill,

Now, therefore, know ye that I, Robert E. Pattison, Governor of the said Commonwealth, in compliance with the provisions of the said Act of the General Assembly, and by virtue of the authority in me vested, do by these presents, which I have caused to be made patent and sealed with the great seal of the State, hereby constitute and erect the said consolidated Boroughs into one corporation and do hereby constitute the same a body corporate and politic by the name, style and title of The Borough of Greensburg, and by the same name to be vested with all the rights, power and privileges, with full force and effect and subject to all the duties, requirements and restrictions specified and enjoined in and by the said Act of the General Assembly, approved the 6th day of June, A. D. 1893.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State, at Harrisburg this 15th day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four, and of the Commonwealth the one hundred and eighteenth.

ROBERT E. PATTISON, [L. s.]

By the Governor,

A. L. TILDEN,

Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Borough Officers.

In the succeeding pages are presented the names of borough officials, provided for under the "old chart-



RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM C. PEOPLES, ESQ.

North Main Street.

er," so far as they have been obtained, from the incorporation of Greensburg, in 1799, to the year 1894, when the consolidation with Bunker Hill took place. Although the list is not complete, it is as nearly so as much patient labor and wide research could make it. The minute book of the

Board of Burgesses, prior to 1858, has been missing for a number of years. Moreover, the records of the Quarter Sessions court do not contain the names of the borough officials elected annually as seemingly intended in Section 3 of the Act incorporating the borough :

Year	CHIEF BURGESS.	BURGESS.	ASSISTANT BURGESSES.	TOWN CLERK.	HIGH CONSTABLE.
1799	George Armstrong.....	Simon Drum.....	Jacob Hugus, Robert Cooper, Thomas McGuire.....	John Morrison.....	Alexander Stewart.....
1800	Joseph Cook.....	Robert Cooper.....	John Hanna, James Brady, Robert Graham.....	John Morrison.....	Alexander Stewart.....
1801	George Armstrong.....	John Wells.....	Henry Conlter, Henry Weaver, Andrew McCulley.....	John Morrison.....	Alexander Stewart.....
1802	John Young.....	Peter Horbach.....	Simon Drum, Daniel Bacon, Nathaniel Williams.....	Nathaniel George.....	Simon Singer.....
1803	George Armstrong.....	John Young.....	John Kuhns, Daniel Bacon, Andrew McCulley.....	John M. Snowden.....	Simon Singer.....
1811	Simon Drum, Jr.....	John Wells.....	Simon Singer, Samuel Guthrie, Robert Williams.....	John M. Snowden.....	Simon Singer.....
1812	George Armstrong.....	Samuel Guthrie.....	John B. Alexander, Abraham Horbach, John Williams.....	Walter Forward.....	Simon Singer.....
1813	Abraham Horbach.....				Simon Singer.....



THE KELLY & JONES COMPANY'S MANUFACTURING PLANT.
South Greensburg.

Year	CHIEF BURGESS.	BURGESS.	ASSISTANT BURGESSES.	TOWN CLERK.	HIGH CONSTABLE.
1814	John Wells.	John Kuhns.	John Fleegeer, Wm. S. Graham, Robert Graham.	Richard Coulter.	Simon Singer.
1815	John Kuhns.	John Wells.	Robert Graham, Jacob Kern, Simon Singer.	Richard Coulter.	Christian Drum.
1816	John Wells.	John B. Alexander.	Samuel Singer, Jacob Kern, John Kuhns.	Richard Coulter.	Daniel Grant.
1817	John Wells.	John B. Alexander.	Robert Williams, John Fleegeer, Samuel Singer.	Richard Coulter.	Daniel Grant.
1818	John Kuhns.	Eli Coulter.	John Fleegeer, Robert Williams.	William Fried.	John Williams.
1819	Richard Coulter.	James Brady.	Jacob Turney, Robert Williams, John Kuhns.	Jacob M. Wise.	John Williams.
1821	Richard Coulter.	David Maclean.	Jacob Turney, Peter Fleegeer, Wm. Johnston.	Jacob M. Wise.	John Williams.
1822	Richard Coulter.	Daniel Grant.	Peter Fleegeer, Frederick Macklin, William Herwick.	Dr. John Morrison.	Samuel West.
1823	Richard Coulter.	Daniel Grant.	Peter Fleegeer, David Kuhns, George Shiras.	Dr. Jno. Morrison.	Samuel West.
1825	Richard Coulter.	A. W. Foster.	Jacob Turney, Jehu Taylor, John Fleegeer.	Dr. Jno. Morrison.	John B. Hornish.
1826	Richard Coulter.	Alex. W. Foster.	Jehu Taylor, James Fleming, F. A. Wise.	Dr. Jno. Morrison.	Lewis Morford.
1827	John Y. Barclay.	Eli Coulter.	F. A. Wise, Arthur Carr, Randal McLaughlin.	Dr. Jno. Morrison.	Lewis Morford.
1828	Eli Coulter.	John Y. Barclay.	Arthur Carr, Randal McLaughlin, F. A. Wise.	Dr. John Morrison.	Peter Fleegeer.
1829	Eli Coulter.	John Y. Barclay.	Arthur Carr, Abraham Horbach, John Kuhns.	Dr. John Morrison.	John Forster.
1830	John Y. Barclay.	Richard Coulter.	John Kuhns, Arthur Carr, Abraham Horbach.	Dr. John Morrison.	John C. Williams.
1836	John Y. Barclay.	John Kuhns.	Jacob Welty, William McKinney, Jehu Taylor.	Dr. Jno. Morrison.	Peter Bossart.
1837	Randal McLaughlin.	Jacob M. Wise.	James Goodlin, Samuel Kuhns, William Ramsey.	Dr. Jno. Morrison.	Peter Bossart.
1839	John Y. Barclay.	Dr. S. P. Brown.	Randal McLaughlin, John Kuhns, Thomas Armstrong.	Dr. John Morrison.	Henry G. Kiehl.
1840	John Y. Barclay.	Dr. S. P. Brown.	Randal McLaughlin, John Kuhns, Thomas Armstrong.	Dr. John Morrison.	Henry G. Kiehl.
1841	Richard Coulter.	Jacob Welty.	John Kuhns, Samuel Kuhns, Joseph Russell.	H. C. Marchand.	Henry G. Kiehl.
1842	Joseph Russell.	Jehu Taylor.	Benj. Highberger, Jacob S. Steck, Thomas L. Drum.	H. C. Marchand.	Henry G. Kiehl.
1843	Jacob Welty.	Richard Coulter.	Dr. S. P. Brown, Simon Cort, John Kuhns.	H. C. Marchand.	Henry G. Kiehl.
1844	John Armstrong.	A. Rumbaugh.	H. Gilchrist, J. L. Turney.	Andrew Ross.	Henry G. Kiehl.
1847	H. Y. Brady.	H. Breneman.	Jacob M. Wise, James Goodlin.	Reuben Shrum.	John Laughey.
1851	Daniel Welty.	S. B. Ramsey.	D. K. Marchand, Hugh Arters, Henry Kettering.	Reuben Shrum.	John Laughey.
1852	Daniel Welty.	D. K. Marchand.	Israel Uncapher, D. W. Shryock, H. D. Foster.	Reuben Shrum.	John Laughey.
1853	Richard Coulter.	James C. Clarke.	Edgar Cowan, S. S. Turney, Jno. Armstrong, Jr.	Reuben Shrum.	John Laughey.
1854	Richard Coulter.	James C. Clarke.	Edgar Cowan, John Armstrong, Jr., Samuel S. Turney.	Reuben Shrum.	John Bricker.
1855	Richard Coulter.	James C. Clarke.	Edgar Cowan, John Armstrong, Jr., S. S. Turney.	Caleb A. Steck.	Michael Hawk.
1856	Henry Kettering.	James C. Clarke.	Samuel Alwine, John Loor, W. H. Markle.	Caleb A. Steck.	Michael Hawk.
1857	James C. Clarke.	John Loor.	Edward J. Keenan, C. R. Painter, Daniel Kistler, Jr.	John L. Fishel.	Michael Hawk.
1858	James C. Clarke.	John W. Turney.	John Loor, Daniel Kistler, John Morrison.	A. G. Marsh.	Michael Hawk.
1859	Jno. W. Turney.	Alex. McKinney.	Daniel Kistler, Jr., Joseph Greer.	A. G. Marsh.	Michael Hawk.
1860	Jno. W. Turney.	Alex. McKinney.	Z. P. Bierer.	J. M. Laird.	Michael Hawk.
1861	Z. P. Bierer.	Z. P. Bierer.		W. K. Wise.	Michael Hawk.
1862	Z. P. Bierer.	Z. P. Bierer.		W. C. Holmes.	Michael Hawk.
1863	Henry Kettering.	Henry Kettering.		J. M. Laird.	Michael Hawk.
1864	Henry Kettering.	C. H. Stark.	F. Y. Clopper, Lawrence Winsheimer, Eli Fisher.	J. A. Marchand.	Michael Hawk.
1865	Henry Welty.	Henry Kettering.	James F. Woods, John D. Coffin, Samuel Alwine.	F. Y. B. Laird.	Michael Hawk.
1866	James C. Clarke.	Israel Uncapher.	William Dixon, William M. Given, A. A. Stewart.	John F. Fishel.	Michael Hawk.
1867	Jacob Turner.	James C. Clarke.	E. J. Keenan, A. A. Stewart, Thos. Donohoe.	F. S. Rock.	Michael Hawk.
1868	Henry Kettering.	C. H. Stark.	Z. P. Bierer, G. A. Allison, W. S. Singer.	Thomas McCabe.	Michael Hawk.
1869	James Borlin.	J. A. Marchand.	J. J. Hazlett, Cornelius Miller, Adam Baer.	Thomas McCabe.	Michael Hawk.
1870	Ira Ryan.	Simon Detar.	W. F. Rock, D. J. Cline, John M. Smith.	A. G. Marsh.	Michael Hawk.
1871	John M. Smith.	Samuel Alwine.	R. M. Reed, John H. Highberger, Peter Welsh.	A. G. Marsh.	Michael Hawk.
1872	L. Winsheimer.	C. R. Painter.	Frank Sarver, D. J. Cline, James H. Welty.	A. G. Marsh.	Michael Hawk.
1873	John L. Holmes.	Samuel Alwine.	Joseph Bowman, Eli Beck, George L. Turney.	A. G. Marsh.	Michael Hawk.
1874	John M. Smith.	J. H. Welty.	R. M. Reed, John Kuhns, C. H. Stark.	A. G. Marsh.	Michael Hawk.
1875	James Borlin.	John M. Smith.	Solomon Trauger, W. H. Hacke, Simon H. Baker.	W. C. Loor.	Michael Hawk.
1876	John M. Smith.	Samuel Alwine, Sr.	Louis Kline, F. B. Laird, Lucien Lawson.	W. C. Loor.	Michael Hawk.
1877	Philip Kuhns.	R. W. Singer.	J. W. Turney, William Dixon, F. Y. B. Laird.	R. B. Patterson.	Michael Hawk.
1878	Hugh Ward.	Lewis T. Bott.	James K. Stuart, Peter Spies, Joseph Bowman.	R. B. Patterson.	Michael Hawk.
1879	John M. Smith.	H. S. Coshey.	John Kuhns, J. F. Dick, Lucien Clawson.	F. U. Rohrer.	Michael Hawk.
1880	James C. Clarke.	Samuel Alwine.	A. B. Brown, F. Y. Clopper, J. C. McCausland.	J. A. Sampsel.	Michael Hawk.

Year	CHIEF BURGESS.	BURGESS.	ASSISTANT BURGESSES.	TOWN CLERK.	HIGH CONSTABLE.
1881	J. E. Gatchell.....	John M. Smith.....	H. Byers Kahns, William Walthour, Charles Diehl....	James E. Keenan.....	Emanuel Noel.....
1882	Z. P. Bierer.....	Jacob Turney.....	P. S. Kuhns, Henry Laughrey, Joseph Tipman.....	Jas. K. Clarke.....	Alexander Stitt.....
1883	Z. P. Bierer.....	C. H. Stark.....	J. T. Kirkwood, Henry Laughrey, Alex. Gress.....	G. E. Kuhns.....	Michael Hawk.....
1884	S. R. Patterson.....	John M. Smith.....	J. R. Bell, J. W. B. Kemmer, Jno. Walthour.....	C. R. Miller.....	Carl Myers.....
1885	H. S. Ackerman.....	Richard Culler.....	James C. Clarke, Edward Keenan, F. C. Gay.....	D. S. Ferguson.....	Carl Myers.....
1886	L. W. Doty.....	F. Y. Clopper.....	Adam Turney, F. C. Gay, Alexander Eicher.....	G. E. Kuhns.....	Emanuel Noel.....
1887	J. A. Marchand.....	A. M. Sloan.....	Charles F. Ehall, James E. Keenan, R. A. F. Lyon.....	W. W. Keenan.....	Carl Myers.....
1888	J. A. Marchand.....	D. Musick.....	John Bomer, John Stoker, John B. Kuhns.....	Cyrus Gross.....	Carl Myers.....
1889	F. Y. Clopper.....	A. M. Sloan.....	H. S. Coshey, Joseph Bowman, Geo. W. Kline.....	Cyrus Gross.....	Carl Myers.....
1890	John C. Keffer.....	O. R. Snyder.....	William Orr, Samuel Alwine, Sr., John M. Keener.....	A. G. Marsh.....	Carl Myers.....

Year.	Chief Burgess.	Burgess.	Assistant Burgesses.
1891	John B. Keenan.....	J. A. Marchand.....	Alex. Gress, Daniel Bierer, ..
1892	F. C. Gay.....	Frank Goodlin.....	John Bomer, W. S. Byers,...
1893	J. Covode Reed.....	E. H. Bair.....	L. Offutt, Henry Coshey,....
1894	William Snite.....	J. W. Pollins.....	James Cochrane.....

Year.	Assistant Burgesses.	Town Clerk.	High Constable.
1891	John M. Keener.....	A. G. Marsh.....	John Wilhart.....
1892	Samuel Bierer.....	A. G. Marsh.....	G. W. Hazlett.....
1893	Alex. Gress.....	A. G. Marsh.....	G. W. Hazlett.....
1894	Edward Donohoe, L. Offutt.	A. G. Marsh.....	John Wilhart.....



RESIDENCE OF MR. GEORGE W. GOOD.
Alexander Street.

William Friedt was the first Tax Collector of the borough, acting in that capacity during the year 1801. The total amount of the tax duplicate, for borough purposes, in that year, was \$122.87½. Simon Singer performed the duties of Collector, as well as those of High Constable, in 1802. In that year the aggregate tax assessed was \$250.71. This marked increase, over the preceding year, was evidently regarded as excessive, as the sum at no time during the ensuing eighteen years, reached \$200. The greatest amount of the borough duplicate, from 1801 to 1845, was in the year 1830, when it attained the proportions of \$297.96.

GREENSBURG SCHOOLS.

A Record of More Than One Hundred Years of Educational Effort.



BROWN BUSINESS BUILDING.
Main Street.

NOTWITHSTANDING the perils and hardships which confronted the early settlers of Greensburg and vicinity, they were not insensible to the importance of providing some means of education for their children. The school house was built only a few years after the block house. Although many of the pioneers themselves had not enjoyed the advantages of schools (of forty applications for pensions, presented by Revolutionary war veterans to the Westmoreland courts, between the years 1820 and 1830, which have come under the writer's notice, nineteen signed their names in English, five in German and sixteen made a mark) they were evidently unwilling that their offspring should be similarly deprived.

A log school house, of a type similar to that of the cabins of the first settlers, in and adjacent to Greensburg, was erected at an early period on the spot where the small brick building now stands, near the spring, in the old St. Clair cemetery. It was built by a fund subscribed by residents of the neighborhood. While the exact time of the erection of the log school house is not known, there is good reason to believe that it was between 1784 and 1787. In a deed (reproduced on another page of this volume) conveying that ground to the Burgesses and inhabitants of the borough of Greensburg, executed April 18, 1803, William Jack characterizes the log cabin as the "old school house."



RESIDENCE OF MR. JOHN S. SELL.
Corner South Main Street and Maple Avenue.

One Thomas Holliday was a schoolmaster in this locality prior to 1788. In that year, as shown by an old account, he was paid £2 and fifteen shillings for tuition by the administrators in the settlement of a decedent's estate. Michael Huffnagle and Robert McConnell (the former then Prothonotary and Clerk of the Courts, and owner of the lot now occupied by the Barclay office building) in a bill of goods bought of Wendel Keller, merchant, of McCallistertown, on September 1, 1789, purchased "twelve spelling books, twelve primers and twelve Dutch spelling books." A single man, named McQuoin, was a schoolmaster in and about Greensburg in 1789 and 1790. John McClelland, who settled in Greensburg in 1791, and resided here until his death in 1846, aged 92 years, was a schoolmaster and weaver. William Roseberry, who lived in this neighborhood in 1795 and 1798 was likewise a schoolmaster and engaged in that occupation.

In addition to the English school, conducted in the log cabin, there were also several German, or, as they were more commonly called, Dutch schools, in the vicinity of Greensburg, in 1788, and for many years thereafter. One of the Dutch schools was situated about one mile southeast of the town. In 1839 a tract of land, including the ground on which the Dutch school house was located, was exposed to sale by the Sheriff. Some of the citizens of that neighborhood formally protested against the school house property being embraced in the proposed sale, setting up as a claim that it had been in possession of the patrons of the school for more than thirty years. The writer has seen an article of agreement, bearing date of April 8, 1799, indenturing a youth of this vicinity as an apprentice to the trade of a blacksmith, which bound his master to send the young man "four months to the Dutch school," during the term of his apprenticeship.



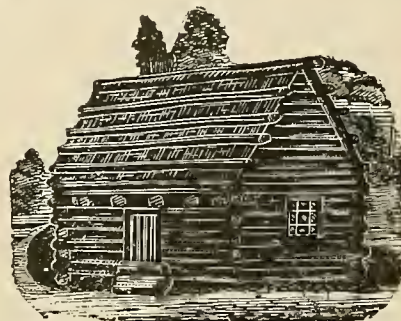
MASONIC TEMPLE.
Erected 1871. Remodeled 1898.
Main Street.

First School Exhibitions.

Immediately following the incorporation of Greensburg as a borough, the Burgesses were referred to as trustees of the log cabin school. Whether they were recognized as such merely by common consent, or were vested with that authority by some form of law, is a matter that cannot now be readily determined. It is known, however, that the Burgesses acted in that capacity after the transfer of the lot on which the school house was located, April 18, 1803, by virtue of it then being borough property. The humble structure was subsequently always designed as the "Borough school house."

James McLean announced in *The Farmers' Register*, on May 10, 1800, that "A Grammar or Latin and Greek school has been opened at or adjoining the borough of Greensburg, (on Monday, the 28th of April last), under the care and tuition of the subscriber, who will, if applied to, board his pupils." On April 15, 1801, this information was laid before the citizens of Greensburg, through the medium of *The Register*:

"A quarterly examination of the scholars of the grammar school, under the tuition of Mr. McLean, will be held on Tuesday, the 16th instant, at the school house in this borough; and on the day following, they will deliver orations on various subjects in the Court House. The exhibition will commence precisely



GREENSBURG'S FIRST SCHOOL HOUSE.
Erected About 1785.

at 12 o'clock. The presence of the trustees, and the friends of literature is requested."

By the same journal the public was furnished with the following intelligence, on February 13, 1802:

"The trustees and friends of classical learning are requested to attend a quarterly examination of the scholars of the Greensburg grammar school, at the school house, on Thursday, the 16th instant; and, on the day following orations, on various subjects, will be delivered in the Court House by the young gentlemen. The exhibition to begin at 12 o'clock."



GREENSBURG'S OLDEST (STANDING) CHURCH BUILDING.
Corner South Main and West Fourth Street.
Covenant Church. Erected 1820.

Deed for "The Commons."

A copy of the deed, already referred to, transferring "The Commons," as the lot embracing the Borough school house was popularly known for a half century, is presented below at length:

Know all men by these presents that I, William Jack, of Hempfield township, Westmoreland county, Pa., Esquire, being desirous to promote the welfare of the borough of Greensburg, have given and do hereby give, grant and confirm to the Burgesses and Inhabitants of the said Borough of Greensburg, in the County of Westmoreland, all that lot or piece of ground within the said borough, beginning at a post on Front street, thence north fifteen degrees west sixty feet; thence north seventy-five degrees east two hundred and fifteen feet; thence south fifteen degrees east sixty feet; thence south seventy-five degrees west two hundred and fifteen feet to the beginning, containing forty-nine perches and two-tenths parts of a perch of land, to-

gether with the use and benefit of the spring adjacent to said lot and free right and passage thereto, being the same lot which was heretofore appropriated for the use of a school and upon which a log tenement house was erected by and at the expense of the inhabitants of the said borough and of its vicinity.



RESIDENCE OF MR. JAMES A. BENNETT.
Corner East Pittsburg Street and Talbott Avenue.

[116]

Also, all that certain other lot or piece of land, within the bounds of the said borough as laid out in the Act of Assembly erecting the same, beginning at a post, thence north eighty-eight degrees west one hundred and ninety-eight feet, north thirteen degrees west one hundred and sixty-five feet and one-half foot to a post in the line between the said William Jack's land and William Best's, thence south eighty-eight degrees west by a lot, given by the said Best to the said borough, two hundred and thirty-five feet, thence south two degrees west one hundred and sixty-five feet and a half to the place of beginning, containing one hundred and thirty-one perches. To Have and To Hold the said first described lot to the said Burgesses and Inhabitants to and for the use of them and their successors forever for the purpose of erecting, when convenient, thereon a house and other proper buildings for the instruction and education of the youth and the accommodation of the teacher who may be employed, reserving nevertheless the rights of the Inhabitants and others, subscribers to the old school house, until the same be waste and unfit for that use, and To Have and To Hold the said described lot to the said Burgesses and Inhabitants to and for the use of them and their successors forever to erect thereon as soon as convenient a house for the public worship of Almighty God, the administration of the sacraments of the Christian Religion and preaching from the sacred Scriptures of Truth, not less than sixty feet square, to be set apart as a site, on the southwesterly part of the said lot, for the said house of worship and ground adjoining, and the residue of the said lot for a place of burial of the dead

In witness whereof the said William Jack, Esq., have hereto set my hand and seal the 18th day of April, 1803.

WM. JACK. [SEAL].

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

JOHN MATTHEWS,
ROBERT SHIELDS.

Before the subscriber, one of the Justices of the Peace for Westmoreland County, came William Jack, Esq., the grantor within named, and acknowledged the foregoing grant as his act and deed to be recorded as such. Witness my hand and seal dated as above.

ROBT. DICKEY, [SEAL].

Recorded March 1, 1804. Deed Book Vol. 7. Pages 107 and 108.

Old Greensburg Academy.

Realizing the need of an institution that would furnish a higher and more systematic education than that supplied by the scattered and irregular subscription schools, a movement was inaugurated by leading



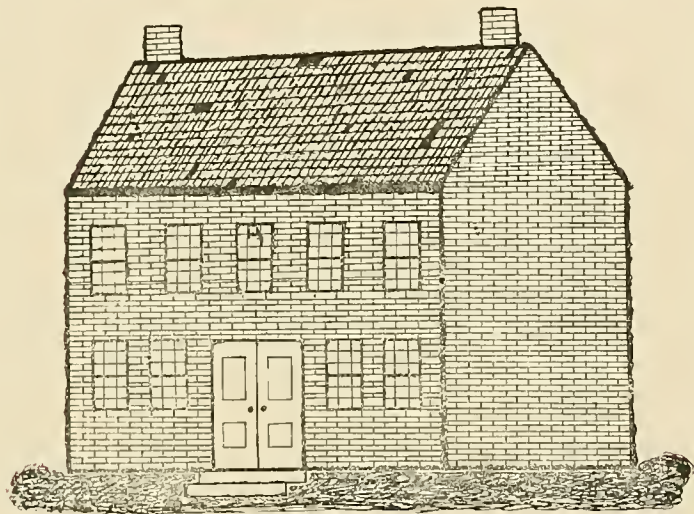
RESIDENCE OF MRS. JACOB TURNEY.
Corner Main and East Third Street.

citizens of the county for the founding of an academy at Greensburg. The project was presented and met with the endorsement of the General Assembly. Accordingly, an Act was passed and approved by Governor Simon Snyder, March 7, 1810, directing "that there shall be, and hereby is established in the Borough of Greensburg, in the County of Westmoreland, an academy or public school for the education of youth in useful arts, sciences and literature, by the name and style of 'The Greensburg Academy.'" The trustees named in the Act of incorporation were Judge John Young, John Morrison, John M. Snowden, Rev. William Speer, Thomas McGuire, Dr. James Postlethwait, Dr. David Marchand and



HON. JACOB TURNEY.

Thomas Hodge. It was prescribed that none of the trustees should continue in office for a longer term than four years without being re-elected by the people of the county annually, at the general election, on the second Tuesday of October, in the same manner and under the same laws, rules and regulations as members of the Legislature are chosen. To determine the tenor of the first trustees' terms the Act set forth



OLD GREENSBURG ACADEMY.
Erected 1810. Destroyed by fire, 1850.

that they should meet on the first Tuesday of May, after the enactment of the law, and cast lots as to the order of their retirement, to create the necessary vacancies to be supplied at the general elections during the ensuing four years. An appropriation of \$2,000 was made from the State treasury, of which sum \$1,000 was to be applied to the erection of a suitable building, if the trustees deemed that course to be the "most advantageous for promoting the object of the said institution, and the remaining \$1,000 shall be placed in some safe productive fund or funds, and the income thereof shall be forever applied in aid of other revenues to compensate a teacher or teachers in said academy, and there shall be admitted into said academy, in consequence of the aforesaid grant, any number of poor children that may at any time be offered in order to be taught gratis; provided, the number so admitted and taught shall at no time be greater than four, and that none of the said children so admitted shall continue in said academy to be taught gratis, should others apply, longer than two years."

Many prominent residents of the county, but mainly in Greensburg, subscribed to the fund for the purchase of ground, erection of a building and maintenance of the institution. Of the state appropriation \$1,000, together with an amount of the moneys arising from individual contributions, sufficient to make an aggregate of \$1,989.46, was invested in stock of the Farmers' and Merchants' bank, of Philadelphia. The account of Thomas Hodge, treas-

urer, showed the receipts from the State, private donations and earnings of the bank stock, from October, 1810, to May, 1814, to be as subjoined :



RESIDENCE OF MRS. BARBARA WELTY.
North Main Street.

Cash received of William Finley, State Treasurer, being the appropriation made by the Legislature to the Academy\$2,000.00

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

William Friedt.....	20 00
George Armstrong.....	50 00
John Young, in part.....	120 00
John M. Snowden.....	10 00
William S. Graham.....	20 00
Robert Brown.....	20 00
Mr. Boggs.....	5 00
Matthew Jack.....	5 00
Thomas Lodge.....	50 00
Joseph Baldrige.....	10 00
Joseph Weigley, Esq.....	50 00
Henry Isett.....	20 00
Arthur Carr.....	20 00
Dr. David Marehand.....	20 00
William Jack, Esq.....	20 00
Dr. Jas. Postlethwait, in part.....	20 00
John B. Alexander.....	20 00
John Kuhns, Esq.....	30 00
Walter Forward, Esq.....	20 00
Thomas McGuire.....	20 00
John Wells.....	20 00
Robert Williams (saddler).....	10 00
Simon Drumm, Jr.....	20 00
John Schaeffer.....	20 00
John Taylor's estate.....	2 00
John Morrison, Esq.....	20 00
Judge Young, 40,000 brick, in full of his subscription.....	180 00
Samuel Bushfield.....	10 00

Joseph Weigley, Esq., for 14 shares of bank stock.....	961.10
Henry Wise.....	10 00
Michael P. Cassilly.....	20 00
Peter Tittle.....	2 00
Andrew Allison.....	2 00
James Fleming.....	20 00
John Reed, Esq.....	5 00
John Sloan, Esq.....	5 00
David Maclean.....	5 00
James Shields.....	5 00
Marmaduke Wilson.....	2 00
Six months' dividends on 29 shares of bank stock, at 10 per cent. per annum.....	145 00
Nicholas Day, Esq.....	20 00
Dr. Postlethwait, 2d installment.....	20 00
Samuel M. Reed.....	10 00
Charles Campbell, Esq.....	20 00
Samuel Guthrie, Esq.....	5 00
James Brady, Esq.....	8 00
John Kirkpatrick.....	30 00
John McCane.....	10 00
James Montgomery, Esq.....	5 00
Frederick Rohrer, Esq.....	5 00
Simon Singer.....	10 00
Samuel Singer.....	5 00
Frederick Macklin.....	2 00
Philip Kuhns.....	5 00
Robert Williams.....	10 00
Samuel Demiston.....	10 00
Alexander Johnston.....	30 00
John Young, Esq.....	150 00
Total.....	\$4,384.10

In addition to the above amounts John Christie, Jr., was credited with a contribution of \$1, and James Sloan with a donation of \$2. This money, however, was refunded, as those gentlemen had intended extending that aid to a theological school, which was in progress in Greensburg, at that time, but the persons who were charged with delivering the same had mistakenly handed it to the treasurer of the Greensburg Academy fund.

After the receipt of a sum sufficient to warrant proceeding with the enterprise, the trustees purchased a piece of ground, embracing one acre and 149.5 perches, in Hempfield township, near the borough of Greensburg, from William Best, the consideration being \$115. The deed bears date of Decem-

ber 13, 1811, although the purchase was really made over one year before. In defining the boundary of the land in the instrument, the point of beginning is designated as on the "east side of the Puckety road." Mrs. Best was also paid \$4 "for signing the deed." The site selected was the



RESIDENCE OF MR. OLIVER P. LONG.
Oakland Avenue.

most commanding eminence in proximity to to the borough, being a part of what is now the beautiful public school plot on North Main Street and North Maple Avenue, or Academy Hill. A building (occupying the same location as the present No. 1, or red brick, public school house) of a very substantial character, for that period, was erected. It was a plain two-story brick structure, with a like number of windows on both the front (west) and rear sides, and a commodious entrance. Neither door nor window broke the solid walls on the north and south. The first story of the building was divided into four rooms for dwelling purposes. On the second floor were two large school rooms and a small apartment for a teacher's studio.

The first session of the academy opened on June 3, 1811. William Clarke was the preceptor in charge. Beside the higher English branches, he also taught Latin and Greek. His compensation was \$60 per annum, with the free use of the dwelling rooms in the building. Although both young men and ladies were accepted as students, the sexes occupied separate school rooms. That regulation prevailed during the entire history of the institution, and extended even to a dividing line on the campus and periods of recess. The one teacher taught in both rooms, which were connected by a large door. Ordinarily there were three terms, of twelve weeks each, in the academy, during the course of a year. They usually began in January, June and October.

As showing that the attendance was reasonably good, it may be stated that in the summer of 1817, for instance, the number of students was 34 young men and 40 young ladies. The rates of tuition, that generally prevailed, for a term of twelve weeks, were as follows: Classical, \$5; English

branches, \$3. Boarding, with light and fire, in the academy, was \$1.50 per week.

Below is a complete list of the teachers employed in the institution from the period of its opening until the destruction of the building by fire :

- 1811-1812—William Clarke.
- 1813—William Clarke, James Coe.*
- 1814—William Heaton.
- 1815—Joseph McCarrell.
- 1816-1819—Jonathan Findlay.
- 1820—Mr. Smith.
- 1821-1824—Mr. Lucas.
- 1825-1835—Thomas Will.
- 1836-1838—James Jones.
- 1838—Thomas Farnsworth.
- 1839—Thomas Farnsworth, John Lloyd.
- 1840—John Lloyd, Rev. B. Ames.
- 1841-1842—William W. Woodend.
- 1842—John W. Duff, Wm. W. Woodend.
- 1843—William W. Woodend.
- 1844—Thomas J. Keenan, Rev. Sam'l Sherwell.
- 1845—Rev. Samuel Sherwell.
- 1846—John Campbell.
- 1847-1849—Rev. Samuel Sherwell.
- 1850—Rev. William D. Moore.

*—Where two persons are named in one year, each taught one or more of the three terms, during that year.

All the teachers were men of scholarly attainments. McCarrell was a graduate of Jefferson college; Thomas Will



RESIDENCE OF MR. LLOYD B. HUFF.
Rose Fountain Park,

of St. Anthony's, Scotland; James Jones, of St. Omer's, France; Thomas Farnsworth, of Union college, New York, and the others of like celebrated educational institutions.



RESIDENCE OF THE LATE HON. JAMES C. CLARKE.
South Main Street.

Findlay was a brother of Gov. Wm. Findlay. Nearly all the above teachers subsequently gained distinction in the pulpit or at the bar. Mr. Ames became a noted bishop in the Methodist Episcopal church.

Many of the students, who received a goodly part of their education at the old Greensburg academy, attained high stations in life and reflected honor upon their alma mater. Among them were Gov. William Freame Johnston, United States Senator Edgar Cowan, Hon. Albert G. Marchand, Hon. Augustus Drum, Hon. Thomas Williams, of Allegheny City, Hon. Henry D. Foster, Hon. Jacob Turney, Judge J. M. Burrell, ex-Judge Thomas Mellon, the Pittsburg financier, Hon. Peter G. Shannon, a Judge of the Allegheny county courts and subsequently Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Dakota, Brigadier General Richard C. Drum, of the United States army, together with many others in almost ever walk of life.

Fire completely destroyed the academy building on the night of July 2, 1850. Nothing was left of the structure but a mass of debris and the shattered foundation walls. Just how the disastrous outbreak originated was never definitely ascertained. A student of mischievous and reckless disposition was suspected by some persons, at the time, of having set the building on fire, but no attempt was ever made to fix the guilt upon him.

Early Subscription Schools.

It would be impossible to furnish a complete list of the subscription schools that were conducted in Greensburg and vicinity during the period from 1800 to 1837, when the com-



RESIDENCE OF THE LATE MR. Z. P. BIERER.
South Pennsylvania Avenue.

mon school system was permanently established. Such schools had a precarious existence and were of irregular tenor. As each teacher acted for himself or herself, and was responsible, in most instances, only to the parents of the pupils, no permanent records were kept of those schools.

They were mainly formed by migratory schoolmasters canvassing the families of the town to secure subscribers for enough pupils to warrant the opening of a school. On some occasions the heads of families would meet at a public house or other designated place, in response to a published call for such a gathering, and determine upon the expediency of procuring a room and employing a teacher to instruct their children. Conferences of that character were convened in this manner, the announcement appearing in the Greensburg and Indiana Register, February 5, 1814 :

"Parents and others interested in the education of youth, are requested to meet at the house of Abraham Horbach, in this borough, on Monday next, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of consulting and fixing on a suitable teacher."

At times, but with no degree of regularity, the Burgessees, who were the custodians or trustees of the Borough school house, employed a teacher and put the school in operation. An advertisement, published by those officials in the Greensburg Gazette, April 2, 1819, was as follows :

"A Teacher Wanted.—A person of respectable character and competent qualifications for teaching the various branches of an English Education, is wanted to take charge of the Borough School in Greensburg. Applications to be made immediately to the Burgesses, trustees of the school."

Although the Borough school house was frequently used as the place of holding the subscription schools, such was not always the case. More desirable and comfortable quarters, elsewhere in the town, were procured sometimes by the teachers or parents.



RESIDENCE OF DAVID A. MILLER, ESQ.
Corner Mill and Third Street.

SOME OF THE EARLY TEACHERS.

William Hara, who claimed to have been "a public teacher for a space of ten years," prior to coming to the United States, taught a school in Hempfield township, "near Hanna's Town," in 1799, and for several years thereafter. Youth were "instructed in the following branches of literature, viz: Reading, writing, arithmetick, book-keeping, geography, geometry, logimetry and altimetry, with their application to mensuration, surveying, navigation, gauging and dialing." Subsequently Mr. Hara came to Greensburg. He was the teacher of a school in the borough for about five years prior to 1808.

Robert Williams, a young man, whose parents resided in Greensburg, was a schoolmaster in the borough for six or eight years, beginning in 1807.

Ephraim Carpenter opened a school "for the education of youth," in the brick building of James Shields, in the autumn of 1814. Mr. Carpenter also conducted an evening school, during

the winter of that year, which commenced at 6 o'clock and closed at 9 o'clock.

Mrs. Gill, whose husband was a tailor, "lately arrived from London," taught a private school for the instruction of young ladies, during the winter of 1815-16. and also the spring and summer of the latter year. The course of study

embraced reading, orthography, English grammar, writing (on Jenkins' plan), composition, arithmetic, geometry and painting in India ink and water colors. The tuition was \$8 a quarter, and boarding, \$30.

George Rohrer was a resident schoolmaster in Greensburg from 1816 to 1820, as was also Gad H. Tower.

Misses de Bartholt opened a school for young ladies, in May, 1820. In addition to the English branches, instruction was also given in music, drawing, painting, and plain and fancy needle-work.

John Armstrong taught mathematics in 1823. R. E. Stoxe conducted a school, with all the English studies, in 1824, Edward Geary, Samuel L. Carpenter and D. C. Morris likewise conducted schools, at various times, during those years and also in 1825.

James Goddard was the teacher of a night school, comprising all the English branches, in the autumn and winter of 1826.

William McGowan occupied the Borough school house in the summer of 1827. Besides the ordinary English studies instruction was given in bookkeeping and the higher mathematics.

Miss Lydie Biddle was the teacher of a school for smaller children, in a log building on the site of the Methodist church, in 1828 and 1829.



RESIDENCE OF DR. E. B. MARSH.
West Otterman Street.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.
Corner Pennsylvania Avenue and West Third Street.
First Building, erected 1873; 2d, 1893.

Robert N. Somerville, a man of acknowledged ability as an educator, but many peculiarities as an individual, was the master of a subscription school in the Borough school house in the summer and winter of 1828 and during several quarters in 1829.

W. G. Torrance taught, in addition to the English branches, surveying and bookkeeping in the Borough school house in 1830 and the spring of 1831. The tuition was \$3 a quarter, seventy-two days to constitute a quarter.

Abel R. Corbin opened a subscription school in the Borough school house in the autumn of 1831. All the common English studies were taught, together with rhetoric, algebra, natural philosophy and chemistry.

Peter R. Pearsoll, in the spring of 1830, opened a school, in which the studies were reading, writing, grammar, arithmetic, geography, and the German language for those desiring to pursue that study. Mr. Pearsoll likewise gave lessons on the piano and other musical instruments to young ladies and gentlemen at their places of residence. He also conducted subscription schools during the five succeeding years, sometimes in the Borough school house and sometimes in rooms elsewhere in the town.

Maurice Scanlon occupied the Borough school house in the autumn and winter of 1832.

John McNevin inaugurated a school, or "seminary," as he designated it, in January, 1833, for the instruction of both young ladies and gentlemen. It was reopened and continued during the spring of that year.

Robert Montgomery was the teacher of both a day and a night school in Greensburg during the winter of 1834.

Lazarus B. McLain taught a school in the summer of 1836. Instruction was imparted in all the English branches and the higher mathematics.

In accord with the law of 1809, which specially provided for "the education of the poor gratis," Westmoreland county made a regular annual expenditure, beginning with 1814. In that year the county paid \$64.13 "for schoolmasters for teaching poor children." The sum disbursed, for the purpose



RESIDENCE OF PAUL H. GAITHER, ESQ.
West Pittsburg Street

named, was increased from year to year, until 1836, when the largest outlay was made, being \$588.44½. Schools having in attendance pupils of that character were commonly referred to as "pauper schools," by persons not in sympathy with the law providing for them. The schools in which the poor children were taught gratis were not conducted as independent or separate schools. Such pupils were reported by the parents to the Assessor, and after the County Commissioners held their appeals, and revised the lists, the Assessor placed a revised list of such children in the hands of the teachers of schools within his township, borough or ward. Teachers were required to receive such children, instruct them the same as the other pupils, keep a record of the number of days they attended, and make out an account, under oath, against the county.

In 1816 a Female Sunday School Association occupied the old Greensburg academy, on Sunday mornings, and taught youth of all classes free. Unlettered adults were also admitted and instructed without cost. The expenses of the Association were met by members paying a certain sum annually, and voluntary contributions.

EARLY SCHOOL TEXT BOOKS.

There were no distinctive book stores in Greensburg during the first quarter of the present century. While a few books, of a religious or historical char-

acter, were kept for sale by some of the persons engaged in general merchandising, and at the postoffice, the largest and most varied stocks in the town were vended at the several printing offices. The editors combined the selling and publishing of books with the newspaper business. A list of school books advertised for sale, "either single or by the dozen," at the Greensburgh Gazette office, in 1818, doubtless,



RESIDENCE OF MR. LEOPOLD FURTWANGLER.
Main Street.

also represented those used in the families and schools of the borough. The list was as follows:

"Bibles and Testaments. United States Spelling Book. Child's First Spelling Book. Murray's Grammar. Complete Letter-Writer. Also

"The English Reader; or pieces in prose and poetry, selected from the best writers; with observations on the principles of good reading. Price 75 cents.

"Introduction to the English Reader; or a selection of pieces in prose and poetry, for the younger class of learners. Price 50 cents.

"The Western Calculator; or a new and comprehensive system of practical Arithmetick, in eight parts.—By J. Stockton, A. M. Price 75 cents.

"A New System of Mercantile Arithmetick; adapted to the commerce of the United States, in its domestic and foreign relations; with forms of accounts and other writings usually occurring in trade.—By Michael Walsh, A. M. Price 75 cents.

"The Star, a collection of Songs, humorous, sentimental and patriotick—many of them relating to the late war."

Borough School Houses.

As previously stated, the first school house in Greensburgh (then Newtown) was erected about the year 1785. It was built by voluntary contributions of the residents of

the village and vicinity, on land owned by William Jack, Esq. At that early period, it is understood, he donated the lot verbally for the use of a school. After the borough was incorporated, Mr. Jack, on April 18, 1803, executed a deed (shown in full on a preceding page) for the same to The Burgesses and Inhabitants of the Borough of Greensburg. The

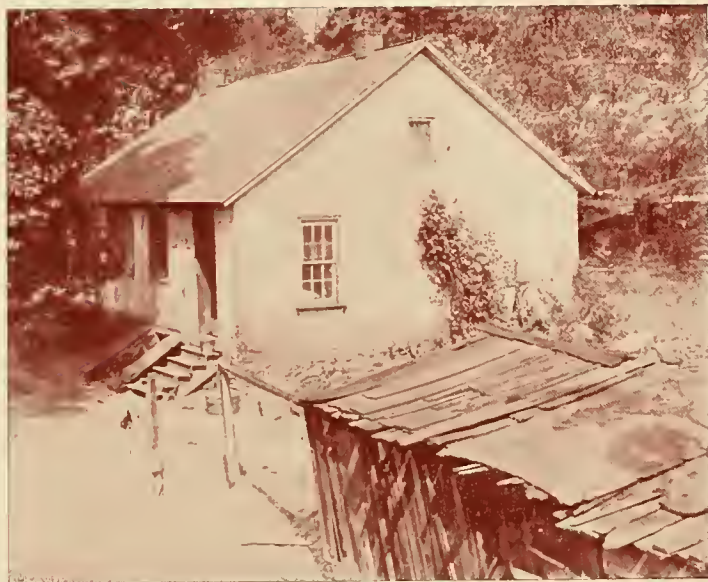
site of the log school house was on ground formerly known as "The Commons." but now embraced in the old St. Clair cemetery. It was originally located at that point because of the proximity to an excellent, never-failing spring, a very important consideration in those primitive days. Although the log, or Borough school house, as it was better known, was somewhat remodeled and improved in subsequent years, the main outlines remained the same until April, 1833. The building was then torn down to make way for a brick school house. The latter, a one-story structure, 28x34 feet, was built in the summer of 1833, and occupied during the winter of that year. It was constructed at the expense of the borough, under a contract with, and the supervision of, the Board of Burgesses. The brick, or new Borough school house, was erected on the same site as the old, or log Borough school house. The brick building is still standing, near the spring, in the old St. Clair cemetery. It having been abandoned for school purposes, in 1857, the ground and little brick school house passed into the possession of the St. Clair Cemetery Association. Since that time the building has been occupied as a dwelling. The illustration, on page 130, shows the south side of the structure, which was the front when it was used as a school house, although the north side has been made the front since its occupancy as a dwelling.



RESIDENCE OF MR. SAMUEL B. FOIGHT,
Seminary Avenue.

Common School System.

Citizens of Greensburg favored the principle of free or public schools long before the plan was first attempted under



BOROUGH SCHOOL HOUSE.
(Now a Dwelling) Old St. Clair Cemetery.
Erected 1833.

the Act entitled "An Act to Establish a General System of Education by Common Schools," enacted in 1834. That fact was made manifest by the borough maintaining a school building for thirty years previously, and the Burgesses frequently employing a teacher to put the school in operation. Touching the methods or provisions of the law of 1834, however, residents of Greensburg, like those of the county at large, were pretty evenly and firmly divided. As required by the Act referred to, Sheriff Samuel L. Carpenter issued a proclamation for an election on the third Friday of September, 1834, in the various districts of the Westmoreland school division, to determine whether the terms of the new law should be accepted or rejected. Out of the twenty districts in the county, at that time, one-half elected Directors favorable to adopting the provisions of the statute. In the borough of Greensburg the vote was on the negative side by a majority of three. As provided by the Act, a joint meeting of the County Commissioners and one delegate from each school district in the county was held at Greensburg, on the first Tuesday of November following the election. Two of the Commissioners and twenty delegates, representing every district, were present. On the question, "Will the meeting agree that a (county) tax for the use of common schools for each district be levied?" the roll call showed eleven yeas and eleven nays. Being decided in the

negative the convention adjourned sine die. One of the County Commissioners voted in the affirmative and the other in the negative. The yea votes were cast by the delegates

from the following districts: Allegheny, Derry, Donegal, Fairfield, Ligonier, Loyalhanna, Rostraver and Washington townships, and Youngstown and Ligonier boroughs. After

the adjournment of the general meeting the delegates who had voted in favor of a tax convened and resolved that the sum of \$4,650 be levied for school purposes. It was further resolved that the meeting of the people of those several districts, as provided by the school law, be held at the usual place of holding elections in those townships and boroughs, on the first Tuesday of the ensuing December, to decide by a majority vote, if they would authorize the levying of a district school tax.

For the election in March, 1835, citizens of Greensburg favorable to common schools, under the law of 1834, nominated Henry D. Foster and William Ramsey for Directors, and those opposed placed John H. Isett and Peter Rummell in nomination. The latter were elected by a small majority. When the new and materially amended law of 1836 was enacted, practically all opposition in Greensburg vanished. It was made clearly manifest by their subsequent actions, that it was not the system that a majority of the citizens, of this place, were dissatisfied with in the law of 1834, but certain



PROPERTY OF THE WESTMORELAND CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY.
Home for Orphan and Friendless Children.
West Pittsburg Street.

of the provisions of the Act, which occasioned many persons to characterize it as "an obnoxious law."

At the county convention of delegates from the various school districts of Westmoreland, in Greensburg, May 2, 1836, under the new law, it was determined "that a county tax for common school purposes be levied for each district equal to that of the present county tax." Residents of the Greensburg school district held a meeting in the Court House, on May 21, of that year, and went still further than the county delegate convention. They adopted a resolution "that double the amount of the county tax for the borough be imposed, in addition to that determined upon by the joint meeting of delegates, for a school tax for the year 1837."

First Common Schools.

Messrs. John Kuhns, Daniel Kiehl, John H. Isett, Peter Rummell, John Y. Barelay and Joseph H. Kuhns constituted

the first Board of School Directors, of Greensburg, under the common school law. The first term of the common schools was for six months, and began on Monday, February 13, 1837. Three schools were put in operation with James Jones, Peter R. Pearsoll and Mrs. Mary Foster as the

teachers. Mr. Jones' pupils occupied a room in the Greensburg academy building. Mr. Pearsoll taught in the Borough school house, and Mrs. Foster instructed the children committed to her care in a room in her own house. The salary of the first named teacher, for the term, was \$115; the second, \$180; and the third, \$95, with an additional allowance of \$35 for fuel. The following rules and regulations for the schools were adopted by the Board of



VIEW OF GREENSBURG, FROM BUNKER HILL, IN 1840.

Directors and two hundred printed copies distributed among the families of the district :

"First—Parents or guardians desirous of sending their children to any of the schools are to hand to either of the Directors a written application, stating the names and ages

of their respective children or wards, to be laid before the Board of Directors, who will meet on every Monday evening for the consideration of the same.



RESIDENCE OF MR. HENRY S. COSHEY.
West Pittsburg Street.

"Second—Children above the age of four years will be admitted into the schools.

"Third—The hours of instruction shall be from 9 to 12 A. M., and from 2 to 4 P. M., for the first quarter. Vacation on the afternoons of Saturday of every week.

"Fourth—Parents or guardians will not be permitted at any time to interfere in the government of the schools, and are requested to be particular in sending their children to school at the stated hour.

"Fifth—Children absenting themselves for two days in succession, without a reasonable cause, shall forfeit their places in the schools until they receive a vote of admission from the Board of Directors.

"Sixth—Parents and guardians will be held responsible for any damages done by their children or wards to the school room furniture or stationery, etc., belonging to the Board."

It was resolved by the Board that, as the school law made no distinct provision for the tuition of colored children, and as the funds of the Board were limited and the schools crowded, that it would be inexpedient to admit persons of color, at present, in the common schools of the district. It was further resolved that the Burgesses be requested to have the Court

House bell rung at 9 A. M. and 2 P. M., each day, for the purpose of regulating the hours of school. Several months later the hours of opening the schools were changed to 8 A. M. and

1 P. M., the sessions to continue three hours in the forenoon and three hours in the afternoon.

For the school year ending the first Monday of June, 1837, the State appropriation was \$200,000. Of that sum the Greensburg school district received \$109.40. For the ensuing school year, a district tax of double the amount of the State appropriation was levied. It was carefully estimated that, for the school year beginning the first Monday in June, 1838, the sum of \$560, over and above the ordinary tax and State appropriation, would be necessary for school purposes. Accordingly, notice was given for a meeting of the taxable inhabitants of the district, on May 1, in conformity with the provisions of the law, to vote on the question of whether the additional tax for school purposes should be levied and assessed. The increase was formally approved by the taxables. At a meeting of the qualified citizens of the district, held on the 5th of May, 1840, in accordance with the law, it was decided by ballot that the common school system should be continued in Greensburg. For some reason, however, not now fully understood, there was no Board of School Directors in existence, and, consequently, no common schools in operation from May 1, 1841, to May 1, 1843. On the latter date a



RESIDENCE OF JOHN D. GILL, ESQ.
West Third Street.

full new Board of Directors was elected, the schools again opened and continued thereafter without notable incident or interruption.



GREENSBURG STEAM LAUNDRY.
Joseph K. Robinson, Proprietor.
West Third Street.

Greensburg Female Seminary.

An Act was passed by the General Assembly and approved April 12, 1838, which was supplemental to the existing school laws. Its purpose was to encourage a higher education than that afforded by the common schools. Among its provisions was an annual State appropriation of \$400 to each academy and female seminary, now incorporated or which may be incorporated, maintaining one or more teachers capable of giving instruction in the Greek and Roman classics, mathematics and English or English and German literature, and in which at least twenty-five pupils shall constantly be taught in either or all of the branches aforesaid. Taking advantage of this assistance offered by the State, "The Greensburg Female Seminary," was duly incorporated April 18, 1838, with the following trustees: Rev. N. P. Hacke, Rev. J. M. Steck, Rev. Robert Henry, A. G. Marchand, John Y. Barclay, Joseph H. Kuhns, William McKinney, S. B. Bushfield, John Morrison, J. M. Burrell, John Kuhns and Jehu Taylor.

The first session of the seminary was opened December 3, 1838, with Rev. J. L. Harrison, rector of the Episcopal church, as principal. At the autumn term, 1842, Miss S. A. Burton became principal of the institution and continued in that capacity until 1843. In that year, because of the urgent need of

money for the great internal improvements, then under way, the State appropriation to academies and seminaries was materially reduced. Female students had always been admitted to the Greensburg academy. With the attendance of such students divided between those institutions, and the

State aid greatly diminished, the Greensburg Female Seminary was compelled to close its career.

District School House.



DISTRICT SCHOOL HOUSE.
(Now a Dwelling) South Main Street.
Erected 1832

After the location of the line of the Pennsylvania Railroad along the northern border of the school lot, it was recognized that the Borough school house would soon have to be vacated for school purposes. That building likewise only afforded accommodation for one school. The Board of Directors, therefore, decided to procure ground on the south side of the town, a number of desirable lots then being on the market there, and that locality being remote from the proposed railroad. A lot, 30x93 feet, on the east side of South Main Street (being the same now occupied by the residence of Mr. Caleb A. Steck) was purchased from Henry D. Foster for \$110 in May, 1848. It was resolved to erect a school house thereon. Failure of the Collector to make settlement, however, necessitated postponement of the building operations. In November, 1849, the trustees of the Methodist church, which was situated on the opposite side of the street, proposed to sell that lot and building to the school district for \$610. They were also willing to accept the Foster lot at cost as part of the consideration. An agreement to that effect was concluded. Deeds were exchanged in April, 1850, the cash balance

paid the trustees and the keys of the old church delivered to the Board of Directors. After being somewhat remodeled, the building was put into use for several schools in May, of that year. A school was also continued in the Borough school house, but, in July, it was found necessary to temporarily

close that school because of the commotion and danger arising from the blasting of rock in the railroad work then actively under way. In November, 1851, a violent storm so badly damaged the old church or school house, on South Main Street, that it was beyond repair, and the construction of a new building was made imperative. Plans and specifications for a two-story brick structure were prepared, and a contract for the erection thereof was awarded to George T. Ramsey, in June, 1852, for \$1,300. Subsequently Samuel B. Ramsey assumed the contract and completed the building. It was occupied for the purpose intended on the first Monday of September, 1853. This building was commonly called the District school house to distinguish it from the Borough school house, the title of the former being vested in the school district and that of the latter in the borough corporation. Ten years later when the Second Ward, or school building No. 1, was completed, the District school house was sold to Israel Uncapher, who transformed it into a dwelling. The building, as it appears at present, is shown in the illustration on page 136.

Messrs. Thomas J. Barclay, John Armstrong, Jr., John W. Turney, Daniel Welty, Samuel S. Turney and Simon Detar constituted the Board of Directors, in 1852, under whose supervision the District school house was erected.



RESIDENCE OF THE HEIRS OF MR. JOHN ZIMMERMAN.
West Otterman Street.

Old Academy Lot Acquired.

In the spring of 1857 the Board of Directors, because of its noisy location and limited space, decided to no longer occupy the Borough school house. Notice of that decision was given the Board of Burgesses, and the latter transferred the



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.
Corner West Pittsburg and Mill Street.
Erected 1892.

property to the St. Clair Cemetery Association, on May 29, 1857. In November, of that year, the School Directors bought a lot, situated at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and Third Street (present site of the United Presbyterian church) from John Kuhns, Sr., the consideration being \$475. The purpose was to erect a commodious school building at that point.

Pending decisive action as to ways and means, however, a movement was inaugurated for the enlargement of the borough limits, which then terminated at Tunnel Street, on the north. The new boundaries, as contemplated, would bring the ground of the old Greensburg academy within the lines of the borough, and the school district likewise. Under those conditions the acquisition of the academy lot for a common school building suggested itself. That beautiful plot had been practically abandoned for school purposes after the burning of the academy building. Funds were lacking to replace the structure. Attempts had been made to conduct an academy or advanced school, under the supervision of the academy trustees, in rented rooms at various places in the town, but they were irregular and the attendance somewhat discouraging. In the meantime the spacious lot had been converted into a place for holding county fairs, horse races, circuses, and a resort for disorderly characters. By an Act of the General Assembly, approved March 30, 1860, in the nature of a supplement to the original statute of incorporation, the borough lines were materially extended and included the academy lot. Formal action followed to

have the property transferred to the Greensburg school district. It was believed that such could be done without impairing the object of the founders of the academy. Instead of being detrimental it was decided that it would be advantageous, both to the academy and the common schools, as one spacious and substantial building could be erected that

would be capable of accommodating both schools. Moreover, by combining their resources, the academy corporation and the common school district could accomplish what would be almost impossible for the former and a very heavy burden upon the latter. Public sentiment being favorable to such a consummation, the Legislature passed a special Act, approved

April 17, 1861, which provided "That the trustees of the Greensburg academy, in the county of Westmoreland, be and they are hereby authorized and empowered to convey by deed, in fee simple, all the real estate of the aforesaid corporation, and also to assign and transfer all the personal property and funds belonging thereto, to the school district of Greensburg borough, in said county, for the purpose of common school education; provided, that two-thirds of the said trustees shall join in such conveyance and transfer, and that the same shall be approved by the Court of Common Pleas of said county."

Just at that time the awful reality that civil war was at hand, burst upon the nation, and so agitated the public mind, that other matters were left in temporary abeyance. At the next session of the Legislature, in a general Act, approved May 20, 1862, bearing the title of "An Act for the regulation and continuance of a System of Education by Common



RESIDENCE OF MR. THOMAS LYNCH.
Seminary Avenue.

Schools," approved the 8th day of May, 1854," was embodied, as section sixteen, the following:

"That the trustees of any academy or seminary, in this commonwealth, which received money or land therefrom,



RESIDENCE OF MR. THOMAS L. JONES,
East Second Street.

for educational purposes, are hereby authorized and empowered to convey, by deed of not less than two-thirds of their number, to be approved by the Court of Common Pleas of the proper county, all the real estate, buildings and property, and funds of, or belonging thereto, to the Board of Directors and their successors in office, of the common schools of the district in which the main building thereof may be situated, to be used and applied by said Directors for the purposes of common school education therein, and for no other purpose: Provided, That when a high common school shall have been established therein, by means of said property, the citizens of the county within which said district is situated, shall have the right to have their sons and daughters admitted into such high school, if duly qualified, on paying the treasurer of said district the same rate of tuition, for each, which it shall annually cost said district, per student, to keep said high school in operation, without adding anything thereto for the use of the building."

Fully satisfied with the authority and power granted by those two statutes, Messrs. Joseph H. Kubns, Jacob Welty, John M. Laird, David K. Marchand, William H. Markle, John Loor, Caleb H. Stark and John Armstrong, composing the board of trustees of the Greensburg academy, executed a deed, conveying the original lot, purchased from William Best, embracing one acre and 149.5 perches, to the Greensburg school district; and, "further, the trustees aforesaid do by these pres-

ents, in consideration of the agreements or stipulations hereinafter mentioned, transfer, assign and set over to the said school district aforesaid all moneys and stocks of or belong-

ing to the said trustees, for the purpose of common school education, to have and to hold the same to the said school district aforesaid, its successors and assigns forever.

"In consideration of the foregoing conveyance and transfer, it is especially understood and agreed by the Directors of the said school district aforesaid, for themselves and successors, by the acceptance of this conveyance, that they, the Board of School Directors of the Greensburg school district aforesaid shall and forthwith proceed to erect upon the lot of ground herein conveyed to them, a suitable building for school purposes, in which they shall provide ample and sufficient school rooms and privileges for an academy, which shall be set apart for the use of said academy, and be and remain under the control and direction of the said trustees and their successors to be used and enjoyed by the same, free of any charge, so long as the said trustees shall deem it expedient to do so; provided, that if an academy be not put in operation and maintenance, in said building by said trustees, and a high school should at



NEW ACADEMY, OR SCHOOL BUILDING NO. 1.
North Main Street.
Erected 1852.

any time be established by said Board of School Directors, the children of the citizens of Westmoreland county shall be admitted thereto, if duly qualified, on paying to the Treasurer of said district the same rate of tuition for each which it shall annually cost said district, per student, to

keep said high school in operation. This conveyance and transfer made by virtue of the authority contained in the Act of Assembly of 17th April, 1861, and the Act of 11th April, 1862."

The deed was dated and signed by all the trustees on May 20, 1862. After due consideration the transfer was formally approved in open court.

New Academy, or School Building No. 1.

With a perfect title to the ground, and stipulations which they were able to fulfill, the Board of School Directors promptly proceeded toward the erection of a spacious and substantial building. In addition to the ground, \$1,850 in cash was received from the trustees of the old academy. Subsequently the lot at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and Third Street was disposed of for \$450, and the District School house property, on South Main Street, for \$831. The contract for the new structure was awarded, on June 12, 1862, to the building firm of Lyon & Bierer, composed of Messrs. Gordon M. Lyon and Z. P. Bierer, at \$9,400. Work was commenced without delay and prosecuted with vigor. The site of the new structure included and covered the ground occupied by the old academy. It was stipulated in the contract that the new building must be completed, or, at least, ready for occupancy, early in June, 1863. That result was accomplished. The interior arrangement of the handsome house was practically the same then as it is at present. There are four large rooms on the first floor, with a broad hall,



RESIDENCE OF MRS. E. W. TOWNSEND.
North Main Street.



RESIDENCE OF JEFF. W. TAYLOR, ESQ.
West Second Street.

and two school rooms, a principal's office and an assembly room, about 45x69 feet, on the second floor. Between the time of the awarding of the contract for the structure, and its completion, because of the civil war, the price of building material and the wages of skilled labor, underwent a marked advance. With the additional allowances made the contractors, and the furnishings, the cost of the new school house was about \$12,000.

The building was first occupied for school purposes in July, 1863. The four rooms on the lower floor were put into use as common schools, with John N. Caldwell, Joseph S. Walthour, Miss Maria Baughman and Miss Isabella J. Williams as the corps of teachers. It was designed that the upper floor should be set apart for the academy. Repeated efforts were made during the ensuing two years to re-awaken interest and re-establish that institution. They were not attended with very satisfactory or encouraging results, however, and the project was reluctantly abandoned. Accordingly, a High school department was introduced into the common school course, in the spring of 1864. It has since been maintained and the standard gradually raised and improved. Although the house here referred to is now generally designated No. 1, or Second Ward school building, it was commonly called "the new academy," for a number of years, and thereafter "the academy," until 1883, when school building No. 2 was erected.

The new academy was built under the control of the following Board of Directors: Messrs. Jacob Turney, James C.

Clarke, C. R. Painter, J. C. McCausland, Thomas J. Barclay and Alexander Kilgore.



RESIDENCE OF MR. A. E. MARTIN.
West Pittsburg Street.

In February, 1876, the Board of School Directors purchased an adjoining lot, on the south, from Mr. Leopold Furtwangler, for \$2,900, embracing 109x205 feet, and added it to the ground acquired from the trustees of the Greensburg academy, thus making the beautiful plot, now possessed by the school district, with a frontage of over 550 feet on Main Street and a like frontage on Maple Avenue. The funds for the purchase of the Furtwangler lot were almost entirely in the nature of fines, which accrued to the school district under the operations of the "local option law."

No. 2, or Fourth Ward School Building.

Owing to the constantly increasing attendance at the schools, it became apparent in 1881 that provisions were necessary for permanently enlarged quarters. After careful deliberation, the Board of Directors determined upon the erection of a new or additional building. As No. 1 school house is located in the northern part of the district, it was deemed advisable that the proposed new structure be placed in the southern section of the town. What was regarded as a suitable lot, situated at the corner

of Third Street and Euclid Avenue, was purchased on October 11, 1881, from Hon. James C. Clarke, for \$4,000. It

had a frontage of 152 feet and a depth of 300 feet. Mr. Clarke also agreed and did donate a sufficient amount of ground to open or extend Fourth Street along the south side of the lot. To meet the cost of the ground and building, the Board of Directors created a bonded loan of \$21,500. Satisfactory plans and specifications having been prepared, and bids solicited, the contract for the new structure was awarded, on April 10, 1883, to Louis W. Bott, for \$20,447. In less than a year thereafter the elegant edifice, shown on this page, was ready for partial occupancy.



NO. 2, OR FOURTH WARD SCHOOL BUILDING,
Third and Fourth Streets and Euclid and School Avenues.
Erected 1883.

The extreme dimensions of the building are $86\frac{1}{2} \times 66\frac{1}{2}$ feet. It is constructed of brick and cut stone. The walls of the first story are eighteen inches in thickness, and above, thirteen inches, while the partition walls are also of brick, and nine inches in thickness. There are eight airy, well-lighted school rooms, 25×35 feet each, all having a connecting cloak room or apartment. The three hallways are twelve feet wide, with an octagonal rotunda, 22×22 feet, and two broad stairways. On the second floor, in addition to the four school rooms, is a principal's office and book room. Having a mansard roof, there is also a lofty attic. The heating and ventilating system, in use in the building, is of the most approved modern pattern, and

the general sanitary arrangements are excellent. The ample grounds, surrounding the building, are adorned with trees, shrubbery, flower plots, smooth sward and graceful terraces.

Messrs. John Latta, Joseph J. Johnston, Eli Beck, J. J. Wirsing, James S. Moorhead and John H. Highberger form-

ed the Board of Directors at the time the splendid building was constructed.

No. 3, or Fifth Ward School Building.

Although Bunker Hill borough was duly incorporated on December 10, 1887, officials for the same were not elected until the ensuing general election, on the third Tuesday of February, 1888. Included within the corporate limits was a substantial, one-story brick school house, which had been erected while the territory of the new borough was yet a part of the Hempfield township school district. Pending arrangements for the construction of a more modern and commodious building, the whilom township school house was utilized for common school purposes. Its situation, however, in the extreme northwestern part of the young borough, was not regarded as a favorable one for the proposed new building. The Board of School Directors, accordingly, purchased two lots, on April 1, 1889, from Mr. Uriah G. Kemp, the consideration being \$1,100. Together, the lots had a frontage of 100 feet on Spring Street, and an equal depth of 170 feet, aligning on an alley, on the west. The location was near the centre of the district. Soon after securing



RESIDENCE OF MR. P. F. M'CANN.
Oakland Avenue.

the ground the Board of Directors, composed of Messrs. J. C. Rohrbacher, Lewis Sanders, Adam Deemer, John Rohrbacher, John S. Eicher and Amos Hutchinson, awarded the

contract for the erection of a building, in conformity with certain plans and specifications, to Mr. Robert Fulton, the cost of the same, when finished, being about \$7,000. To provide for the outlay, a bonded loan of \$7,000 was negotiated. By diligent work on the part of the contractor, the structure was brought to a sufficient stage of completion to be occupied for school use in the autumn of 1889. The dimensions of the building are 80x40 feet. Brick and stone were used in the construction. The building embraces four large school rooms, two good-sized halls, a broad stairway and an attic. The district having no further need of the old township school house and ground, disposed of the same, and the little brick building was converted into a dwelling by the purchaser.

When Bunker Hill borough was merged with Greensburg, in 1894, as the Fifth ward, of course, the school property was likewise brought within the Greensburg school district. It was then that it became known as No. 3, or Fifth ward school building. After the consolidation a number of important improvements were made in the building,



NO. 3, OR FIFTH WARD SCHOOL BUILDING.
(Formerly Bunker Hill Borough School House.)
Spring Street.
Erected 1889.

in the way of heating, ventilation and other sanitary features. On October 31, 1894, two additional lots were purchased from Mr. Uriah G. Kemp for \$1,000. Those two lots adjoin the others, belonging to the school district, on the

north, making the aggregate frontage of the school grounds 190 feet on Spring Street. The betterments of the building and surroundings, and the additional lots, have increased the value of the property of the school district, in that ward, about \$6,000.

Greensburg High School.

Following the opening of the schools on September 9, 1895, it was discovered that there was a very large increase in the number of pupils in attendance. No more rooms being available on the upper floors of the school buildings, temporary apartments were provided in the basements of Nos. 1 and 2 buildings, formerly occupied by the families of janitors, and additional schools established therein for about one hundred pupils. Notwithstanding those arrangements, it was found that all the regular rooms were still in a crowded condition. Because of the Compulsory Education law, which had been approved in May, and would become operative at the opening of the ensuing school year, and, in all probability, further increase the number of pupils, the Board of Directors realized that an additional building was necessary. At the regular monthly meeting of the Directors, on September 16, the situation was



RESIDENCE OF W. S. BYERS, ESQ.
Mill Street.



GREENSBURG HIGH SCHOOL.
Erected 1896.

carefully considered and a new building virtually determined upon. However, a committee was appointed to inquire into the subject, in all its features, and report to the Board. After receiving the report of the committee, on November 18, and a thoughtful discussion of the condition of affairs,



DRUG STORE OF MR. S. L. WALTHOUR.
Main Street.

the Board of Directors decided upon the erection of an additional building. It was determined that the new structure should be for High school purposes; that its location should be on the old academy, or Second ward grounds, north of No. 1 building; that it should have accommodations for 350 pupils, 200 in the preparatory department and 150 in the High school proper, and that an architect be employed without delay to prepare plans.

In the deliberations as to the character of the contemplated new building, the Board of Directors regarded the probable demands of the future as to school facilities. It was maintained that at no far distant day all the suburban or abutting boroughs would likely be merged with Greensburg, both in the matter of municipal and school government. As all those boroughs are provided with comparatively new and substantial buildings, well adapted for primary and intermediate ward schools, the paramount need, under such conditions, would be a central High school. It was likewise agreed that, even if a general consolidation of the cluster of boroughs and school districts should not occur, the most pressing need of the Greensburg district was a High school building. With a school census of 1,500, and the Greensburg district being obligated at all times to receive students from any part of Westmoreland county into its High school department (of which there are always a number in attendance) on the payment of the same rate of tuition which it annually costs the district, per student, to maintain that department,

under the covenant on which the old Greensburg academy lot was acquired, it was decided that the increasing attendance in the secondary grades rendered the erection of a building, of the character indicated, the most expedient, both for the present and the future.



RESIDENCE OF MR. J. HOWARD PATTON.
Seminary Avenue.

Plans and specifications were prepared by Mr. W. S. Frazer, of Pittsburg, the architect chosen for that work, in conformity with the style of building outlined by the Board of Directors. Proposals for its construction having been solicited, a number were received and opened on May 5, 1896. As they all exceeded the sum which the Directors felt warranted in expending, the architect was instructed to make certain changes in material, to reduce the cost, preserving at the same time the general outlines of the building as originally designed. Bids having again been received, based on the modified plans, they were opened on June 1. Messrs. Kennedy, Hamilton & Fair being the lowest bidders, were awarded the contract on that day, at \$58,027. Ground for the splendid structure, which is now the pride of the school district, was first broken on Tuesday, June 16, 1896. Mr. James Wentzell supervised the work, as the representative of the Directors, from the beginning until the building was completed. At the time the erection of a High school structure was determined upon, and the plans adopted, the Board of Directors was composed of the following persons:

First Ward—Joseph J. Johnston, James S. Moorhead and A. M. Sloan.

Second Ward—John M. Jamison, John M. Zimmerman and B. F. Vogle.

Third Ward—C. T. Barnhart, T. F. Lyon and Theodore Hammer.

Fourth Ward—Leonard Keck, George H. Hugus and Curtis H. Gregg.

Fifth Ward—Jesse Hunter, H. M. Zundel and R. D. Wolff.

To provide for the cost of the building, and the redemption of \$15,000 of bonded indebtedness, part of which remained of the loan for No. 2 building and part of which was acquired in the consolidation of Bunker Hill borough, the Board of School Directors, on July



RESIDENCE OF MR. W. C. LOOR.
Brown Avenue.

1, 1896, created a bonded loan of \$74,000, the bonds to bear five per cent. interest (the holder to pay the State tax) and to run from five to thirty years.

Much unfavorable weather, during the summer of 1896, retarded the work on the building in its early stages. Because of that delay, due to no fault of the contractors, the time for the completion of the structure, was extended beyond that called for in the contract. The magnificent temple of education was finished in August, and first occupied at the opening of the school term on Monday, September 6, 1897. The building is constructed of Pompeian repressed buff brick, with Cleveland cut-stone trimmings and rock-faced foundation. The roof is of slate, and the gutters, copper. From north to south the extreme length of the structure is 138 feet, and from front to rear, west to east, 118 feet, or, including the handsome stone porch, 134 feet. Its height is 78 feet.

In the front half of the basement are the furnace, engine, fresh and foul air rooms, and separate lavatories for males and females. The heating and ventilating system is of the most approved modern pattern. Two revolving fans, each ten feet in diameter, and driven by a thirty-five horse power gas engine, furnish the fresh and exhaust the foul air. A thermograph in the engine room, registers at all times the exact temperature of every apartment, above the foundation, in the building. The eastern half of the basement, which is above ground, was designed as a room for manual training (instructing boys in mechanical drawing and the use of tools), which it is expected will be introduced into the schools at a future time.



RESIDENCE OF MR. NATHANIEL MILES,
South Maple Avenue.

The main entrance hall, on the first floor, is 22 feet in width. It intersects another hall, 20 feet wide, running the entire length of the building from north to south. On this floor, all having 15-foot ceilings, are four well-lighted school rooms, 26x39 feet, and a combined library and Directors' room, 25x50 feet. A separate cloak room is connected with all the school rooms. Four stairways, eight feet wide, and of easy rise, two in the north and two in the south wing, lead to the second floor, and thence to the third story. The main doorway, and two others at the north end, and a like number at the south end, of the long hall, furnish ample means of entrance and exit from the building.

On the second floor are two recitation rooms, 26x33 feet, a physical laboratory, 25x30 feet, and an assembly room, 52x40 feet. Cloak rooms are likewise connected with these several apartments.

An auditorium, 79x84 feet, with a seating capacity of 1,150, occupies the third story. By the gradual rise of the floor the stage, which is 32x25 feet, is entirely visible from the most remote seat. On either side of the stage is a dressing room, 14x16 feet. In the auditorium the ceiling rises from 17 feet at the corners to 32 feet in the centre, and the delicacy of adjustment is such that the acoustic features are almost perfect. Large opera chairs, with foot stays, render the seating very restful. Ticket offices are located in the hallways at the north and south entrances to the auditorium. This spacious apartment affords accommodations for a larger assembly than any other building in Westmoreland county.

Nearly two hundred tons of structural steel were used on the interior construction of the building. The wood finishing is of oak, and the ceilings and walls, white plaster, hard finish. The splendid structure is supplied with electric light,



RESIDENCE OF MR. A. D. WELTY.
West Otterman Street.

illuminating gas and city water. Wash stands and drinking fountains are located in the halls of the first and second stories, and hose connections, for fire purposes, on all the floors. In every respect the Greensburg High school is regarded as a complete, modern and model school building. The total cost of the structure, with all the interior furnishings, including desks and seating of the school rooms and auditorium, was about \$87,000. The beautiful surrounding grounds are in keeping with the character of the building.

Principals and Superintendent.

During the first twenty-seven years of the operation of the common schools, in Greensburg, a Principal was deemed unnecessary by the Board of Directors. When a High school department was established in March, 1864, however, the office of Principal was created. The duty devolving upon him, during that year, and for some years thereafter, was more in the nature of a teacher in the High school, than as a directing or supervising teacher of all the schools of the district. Annexed is a list of the Principals of the Greensburg schools:

1864-1865—John N. Caldwell.

1866—F. N. Bardwell.

1867-'68-'69—Matthew B. Gaut.

1870-'71-'72—J. M. Foster.
 1873-1874—Samuel Barclay.
 1875-1876—Alexander D. McConnell.
 1877—Jacob R. Spiegel.
 1878—A. Freeman.



RESIDENCE OF MR. E. M. GROSS.
 West Otterman Street.

1879-'80-'81-'82-'83—J. J. Sharp.
 1884-'85-'86-'87—Z. X. Snyder.
 1888 } James C. Shields.
 1889 { N. M. Fenneman.
 1890—N. M. Fenneman.
 1891-'92-'93—H. B. Twitmyer.
 1894-1895—Frank N. Shaw.
 1896—A. M. Wyant.

Greensburg possessing the legal requirements for a Borough Superintendent of schools, a convention of the Directors of the district was called on April 17, 1897, to consider the expediency of establishing that office. After mature deliberation, the convention decided by a unanimous vote, to elect a Borough Superintendent. At a convention convened for that purpose, in accordance with the provisions of the law, on May 17, 1897, Prof. A. M. Wyant, then Principal of the schools, was unanimously elected the first Borough Superintendent of the Greensburg common schools. The election was for a partial term, or to fill a vacancy, being until the first Tuesday of May, 1899. The regular term of all County, City and Borough Superintendents, under the law, is for three years, and all are elected triennially at a like time, an intervening election being in the nature of supplying a vacancy or filling an unexpired term.

The duties of a Borough Superintendent, in Greensburg, are to a large extent similar to those performed in more recent years by a Principal. He is empowered,



SWEDISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH,
Southwest Greensburg.
Erected 1896.

however, to examine all applicants for teachers in the Greensburg schools. The term likewise permits the Superintendent to forecast the school work for a longer period than one year, the latter usually being the tenor of a Principal's election. As defined by the law "it shall be the duty of all City or Borough Superintendents to take a similar oath or affirmation to that now required of County Superintendents, to perform, within the limits of their several jurisdictions, all the duties now by law enjoined upon County Superintendents and to discharge such other duties as the by-laws, rules and regulations of the respective Boards of Directors may require; and it shall be the further duty, in addition to an annual report, to report monthly to the Department of Common Schools, such facts relating to their work and the condition of the schools under their charge as may be required by the Superintendent of Common Schools, and to attend meetings of Superintendents called by said Superintendent of Common Schools."

Having created a Borough Superintendency the Greensburg schools are not subject to the authority or jurisdiction of the County Superintendent, and the Directors of the Greensburg school district do not participate in the election of the County Superintendent.

Gov. Geary's Good Advice.

Hon. John W. Geary, a native of Westmoreland, at that time Governor of Pennsylvania, while sojourning with relatives in Greensburg, visited the public schools, on Friday afternoon, September 16, 1870. He was accompanied by several members of the Board of Directors and a number of leading citizens of the town. All the children in the schools were convened

in the large assembly room of the (then) new academy, now school building No. 1. A very happy address was made to them, in simple language, by the distinguished visitor. It was of a reminiscent character, touching in some features, and contained so much good advice, that it is reproduced, in

part, as worthy of a place in the annals of the Greensburg schools :

If ever I felt interested in a visit to any public school, anywhere in any place, or at any time during my public life, (and I have visited more than a thousand of them), I feel interested now in this visit to you this day, deeply interested, indeed. Perhaps you will ask why I feel thus interested. I will tell you: I am a Westmorelander—I was born in this county, and when I was a boy I used many a time to paddle these streets of Greensburg, bare-footed, as I see many of you now. I have never forgotten those days, nor have I ever forgotten old Westmoreland, and many a time when far away in other scenes, in distant lands, have I called back to my memory the events of the by-gone times, and pictured to my fancy these eternal hills, and blue mountains that everywhere meet your eye around you. If I shall succeed in convincing you that I am honest and truthful in this assertion of the interest I feel for you, created as it is by the recollection of these early associations and pleasant reminiscences, I shall carry away with me a grateful memory of this visit, and feel myself amply repaid. It may be true that none of you know me, that my face and features are strange to you, and that you may never have seen me before; but I feel that I know each and every one of you: I knew your fathers and grandfathers, and I feel that still I am one of you. The kindness and partiality of the people of this great State of Pennsylvania have placed me in the high and responsible office of Governor, and they have re-elected me, and I feel deeply thankful and grateful to them for this partiality and mark of their esteem, and I cannot show my deep sense of gratitude, or my appreciation of this unmerited kindness in any better way than by taking a direct, warm, personal, steadfast interest in the management and welfare of the public schools, and of the children committed to their care. I love the schools and always take great delight in visiting them and interesting myself in their welfare and success. * *

There is much improvement in schools and school buildings within my recollection. Where this fine building now stands there used to be a small brick school house, which they called an academy; and a little Latin and Greek was taught at it, and it was in its day quite an institution. In other places the school houses were log cabins, with a plank against the



RESIDENCE OF MR. JAMES RUMBAUGH.
Ludwick.

walls for desks, and slabs, with legs in them, for seats; and some old fellow, generally from the old country, with a quill behind his ear and a rod in his hand, was the teacher; but the old school houses and the old fashioned teachers have all disappeared, and there has been much improvement.

I have taught school myself and know the value of an education, and cannot too forcibly impress upon you the necessity and importance of a thorough acquaintance and study of the elementary branches. This is most important and most essential, and is the foundation of all

education. Acquaint yourselves with geography, grammar, and, by all means learn to spell and write well. There is no country in the world where bad spelling is so ridiculed and where the use of it is so frequent, as in this; and it is a great mistake that many make, that men of talent should be bad penmen. I cannot see why a man who has brains enough to originate a happy thought should not have the mechanical skill to write it plainly and legibly.

I trust you will think of these things and make good use of your school-boy days. You have an equal chance, the wide world is before you all alike, and let your ambition be to be good scholars now, and good and useful citizens hereafter. May God bless you now in your innocence and childhood, and may his blessing ever attend you hereafter, to whatever state of life you may be called.

School District Boundaries.

The boundaries of the school district of Greensburg were the same as those of Greensburg borough for thirty-five years after the adoption of the common school system. When the borough limits were extended at various times, the action also carried with it a like enlargement of the lines of the school district.

By a special Act of the General Assembly, approved April 13, 1872, however, the northeastern boundaries of the school district were extended beyond those of the borough. The statute referred to was entitled "An Act to annex the farm belonging to the heirs of Alexander Culbertson, deceased, to the Borough of Greensburg, Westmoreland county, for school purposes."

It is set forth therein that "Whereas, the farm belonging to the heirs of Alexander Culbertson, deceased, lies partly



RESIDENCE OF MR. A. B. M'GREW.
North Main Street.

in Hempfield township and partly within the borough of Greensburg, Westmoreland county; and, whereas, for the want of public roads, it is difficult for those residing on said farm to reach the public school house in said township; therefore

"Section 1. Be it enacted, etc., That the farm belonging to the heirs of Alexander Culbertson, deceased, situated part-

ly within the borough of Greensburg and partly in the township of Hempfield, in Westmoreland county, shall be attached to said borough of Greensburg for school purposes."

A large part of the farm here referred to has since been laid out in lots and a number of dwellings erected thereon. Residents of that locality are assessed and pay school taxes, and are permitted to vote for School Directors, in the Greensburg school district, but for all other purposes and officials they vote and pay taxes in Hempfield township. Accordingly, the assessed valuation of the Greensburg school district is greater than the assessed valuation of Greensburg borough, in proportion to the taxable value of the property within the lines of the annexed territory.

Prior to the merging of Bunker Hill borough with Greensburg, the Board of Directors, of the latter school district, embraced six members, who were elected in the district at large. With the consolidation, however, Greensburg was divided into five wards, and the Board of School Directors, like the Borough Council, increased to fifteen members, three being elected from each ward.

For a period of fifty-five years it has been the policy of the Greensburg district to admit pupils, whose parents reside contiguous to the borough, into all the schools, as well as the High school department, on the payment of a rate of tuition equal to that which it costs the district, per pupil.



RESIDENCE OF MR. JOHN E. CLARKE.
South Maple Avenue.

Endowment and Donations.

That the citizens of Greensburg entertain a very kindly feeling toward the common schools of the district, and a pride in the wide reputation for excellence which they have enjoyed for years, has frequently been attested, in many



UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH.
West Fourth Street.
Erected 1896.

ways. A number of the residents of the town, when nearing the close of their lives, have thought of the great usefulness of the schools, and made them the subject of their commendable generosity.

One of the first of these persons, imbued with that laudable public spirit, was Dr. John Morrison. In the course of his last will and testament, bearing date of March 11, 1869, is this provision: "I give and bequeath to the 'School District of the borough of Greensburg,' in the county and state aforesaid, three hundred dollars, to be applied as the School Directors thereof may direct." Dr. Morrison died on August 4, 1869, and, in due time, the money was paid into the treasury of the school district by his executors. During the thirty years that have elapsed, the successive Boards of Directors have kept the fund intact. It has been invested, from time to time, so that, with the accrued interest, it now amounts to about \$1,200. It will ultimately be disposed of, no doubt, in a manner that will be most advantageous to the schools, and, at the same time, perpetuate the memory of the donor.

Morrison Underwood, on November 18, 1879, executed a deed conveying a fund of \$11,000 to a board of trustees, of which \$8,000 was for the exclusive use of the High school department of the Greensburg common schools. In its exact form, the deed is as follows :

DEED FOR THE UNDERWOOD DONATION.

Know all men by these presents that I, Morrison Underwood, of Carlisle, Cumberland county, Pa., formerly of Greensburg, Westmoreland county, Pa., for and in consideration of the sum of one dollar, to me paid by the persons hereinafter named, at and before the sealing and delivering of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted, sold and delivered unto Thomas J. Barclay, Henry C. Marchand, Jno. Armstrong, Lewis Trauger, Philip



PROPERTY OF THE HEIRS OF MR. C. P. PAINTER.
South Main Street.

S. Kuhns, Richard Coulter and James C. Clarke, all of the borough of Greensburg, Westmoreland county, Pa., eleven thousand dollars, \$8,000 of which is in cash and three thousand in four per cent. United States government bonds. To have and hold the said eleven thousand dollars to the parties aforesaid, their successors and assigns, In trust nevertheless for the uses and purposes hereinafter mentioned. The persons above named and their successors shall be known and designated Trustees of the Morrison Underwood donation fund. They shall have full power and authority and it shall be their duty to fill all vacancies which may occur in their number from death, resignation, removal from the county aforesaid or otherwise. The said Trustees may appoint a treasurer if they deem proper, requiring him to give such security as they shall approve and are not to receive or accept any compensation for their own services. The said Trustees shall invest whatever amount of the fund herein given and granted is not already invested, in such securities as in their judgments, or that of a majority of them, may be for the best interests of the objects designated to be benefited by the donor, and on further trust shall have full power and authority to sell and dispose of any securities or bonds they may have from time to time, receive the proceeds thereof and re-invest the same in trust for the uses and purposes herein mentioned, which uses, objects and purposes are hereby declared to be as follows: The said Trustees shall annually apply to and expend eight elevenths of the clear income of said fund for the maintenance and support of the High school department of the common schools of the borough of Greensburg aforesaid in such manner as in the judgment of the Trustees or a majority of them shall be for the best interests and most advantage of said High school department; and the remaining three-elevenths of the clear annual income of said fund shall be expended by them in the establishment and maintenance of a suitable library and for reading matter for the inmates of the institution in said county designated by law The Directors of the Poor and the House of Employment of the county of Westmoreland. The said library shall be located in the buildings of said institution, but the selection and matter thereof to be under the exclusive control of said Trustees. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the 18th day of November, 1879.

On the same day that the deed was duly signed, sealed, and delivered, the persons designated in the instru-

ment as trustees, added the following to the record : "We, the undersigned trustees, named in the foregoing deed, do hereby accept the trust therein contained and set forth, and acknowledge to have received from Morrison Underwood,

Esq., the grantor, eleven thousand dollars, the trust fund in said deed mentioned."

Mr. Underwood died at Carlisle, Pa., on February 25, 1885. His remains were brought to Greensburg and interred in the old St. Clair cemetery, the obsequies being attended by all the pupils of the Greensburg common schools. Mr. Underwood lived long enough, after making the endowment, to witness some of the grand results attending his considerate and noble act. In 1899 the board of trustees of the Underwood fund was composed of Gen. Richard Coulter, Joseph J. Johnston, Esq., John D. Gill, Esq., Albert H. Bell, Esq., Mr. James A. Shields, Hon. Alexander D. McConnell and Mr. Benj. F. Vogle, only one of the original trustees named in the deed surviving.

Through the means of the Underwood donation fund, the High school department has been supplied with many valuable text books of a scientific and historical character, together with much desirable and costly apparatus of various kinds. A library was established at the County Home, or poor house, in conformity with the provisions of the deed of trust. After a thorough trial, however, it was found that the inmates of that institution had a decided preference for newspapers, magazines and periodical publications instead of bound volumes of standard works. Exercising the power vested in them the trustees, in May, 1887, had the library transferred to an apartment provided for that



RESIDENCE OF A. H. BELL, ESQ.,
Corner South Main Street and Maple Avenue.



GREENSBURG SEMINARY.
Seminary Avenue,
Erected 1874.

purpose in the High school department of the No. 1 school building. In the meantime literature, such as the inmates of the County Home desired, has been supplied them. On the completion of the Greensburg High school building, the trustees of the Underwood fund procured a number of dust-proof, sectional oak bookcases, and the library was installed in the Directors' room of that substantial structure. In addition to the bookcases several large stands or cabinets, of special make, for the storage and display of the various specimens, donated to the High school, were likewise purchased by the Underwood trustees, and placed in that apartment. Embraced in the general collection, in the Directors' room, are—

1. Underwood Library, containing about 1,800 volumes, together with 300 volumes, donated by the late Miss Kate Stoy. The books in Underwood library touch upon almost every subject. Some of the volumes have also been donated by citizens of the school district.
2. Miss Kate Stoy collection of Shells, about 800 in number, from all parts of the world.
3. Miss Kate Stoy collection of Butterflies and Insects, about 500 in number.
4. About 100 specimens of Invertebrates, from the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C.



RESIDENCE OF MR. THOMAS DONOROE, SR.
West Second Street.

5. Mr. Cyrus Stark collection of minerals, 100 in number, from Missouri and Kansas, consisting of Blende, Galena, Flint Rock, Gangue Rock, Ruby Jack or Zinc Ore, Rosin Jack, Calumariae, Quartz, etc. In the collection are some fine examples of crystallization.

6. Dr. Alfred King collection of Fossil Ferns, etc., and also specimens from Geological Survey, about 1,000 in number.

7. About 2,000 specimens of Shells, Rocks, Minerals, Woods, etc., which have not yet been classified.

Children in all the schools above the primary grades are permitted to borrow books from the library, under certain established rules and regulations. One of the teachers acts as librarian by appointment of the Superintendent. The advantages of the library are generally appreciated by the larger pupils. No books have been lost and there is no apparent disposition on the part of pupils to disregard or violate the rules and regulations governing the library.

Many of the citizens of Greensburg possess surplus or unused books, most of which are of an instructive and useful character, that could be made to serve a good purpose if they were donated to the school library. Placed therein, such books would help to enlarge and enrich the collection, which is increasing from year to year. It would likewise render the volumes available for the young ladies and gentlemen, both of the present and the future, who may strive for self-improvement.

Growth of the Schools.



ST. BENEDICT'S SCHOOL.
North Main Street.
Erected 1892.

A glance at the records shows a steady and healthy growth in the schools of Greensburg during the sixty-two years that the common school system has been in operation. In February, 1837, when the first common schools were opened, three teachers were employed and 160 pupils in the schools. The same number of teachers were in service in 1847, but the number of pupils had increased to 189, one teacher having 86 in charge. In 1865 the number of teachers was six, and pupils, 331. There were 450 pupils, with eight teachers and a Principal in the schools in December, 1877. The most rapid increase, however, has been within the past five years. A few statistics, touching that period, from the official reports, are subjoined. It was between the school year ending the first Monday of June, 1894, and that ending the first Monday of June, 1895, that the Bunker Hill borough school district became a part of the Greensburg school district :

	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
No. of schools.....	17	18	21	27
No. of teachers.....	17	19	21	27
No. of pupils.....	780	1,175	1,096	1,178
Average attendance.....	672	815	844	923
Taxes for school and building purposes.	\$12,217.04	\$15,444.21	\$20,120.38	\$24,192.78
Cost per pupil, per month.....	1.85	1.46	1.80	1.80
State appropriation.....	4,246.85	5,711.62	5,711.62	5,497.83

For the current school year, ending June 5, 1899, the enrollment is 1,225 pupils and the average attendance about 1,075, with thirty teachers, including the Borough Superintendent, employed.



PROPERTY OF HON. FRANK B. HARGRAVE.
Seminary Avenue.

Free Schools and Pay Schools.

For a number of years after the public or free schools were put in operation in Greensburg, private or pay schools, of the primary and intermediate grades, were likewise conducted at intervals in the town. The terms of the public schools during the first fifteen years were somewhat irregular and the vacation periods protracted. In many instances, accordingly, the pay schools were opened during the prolonged vacations of the public schools. Moreover, for a time, there was a reluctance on the part of some parents to place their children in the public schools. They gave two main reasons for entertaining that feeling. One was that there was a close association of good and bad children, and that the contact with bad or evil schoolmates might be detrimental to those who had enjoyed better home influences and training. Another strong reason was based on sanitary conditions. It must be confessed that in the earlier years of the public schools the personal habits of

the pupils were not of the model character, and were not regarded as being within the authority of the teacher as now. Those juvenile afflictions, such as itch, mumps, chicken-pox, lice, etc., frequently prevailed among the pupils, and it sometimes happened that the presence of a few children so afflicted soon contaminated the entire school.



RESIDENCE OF W. A. GRIFFITH, ESQ.
Oakland Avenue.

When the New Academy, or No. 1 school building, was erected, and a High school department established, however, the public schools became more orderly and better systematized, and inspired stronger public confidence. Thereafter the pay and select schools, of the elementary grades, found few patrons and soon disappeared entirely. Since that time, in Greensburg, citizens of all classes have sent their children to the public, or, as designated by law, the common schools.

Among the schools of the past was an academic institution, known as the Muhlenberg Institute. It occupied an old building on Bunker Hill and was in operation during the years 1847-'48-'49. It was conducted under Lutheran auspices, and was the beginning of what is now Thiel college, located at Greenville, Pa.

From 1845 to 1870 a German school was conducted at intervals in Greensburg and Hempfield township, under a legacy from Jacob Buerger, left jointly to the Lutheran and German Reformed congregations for that purpose. Thereafter the fund was applied to the Sunday schools of those churches.

C. D. Hass, on June 25, 1814, opened what he called a military academy in the Court House. It was not an educational institution, as has sometimes been stated, however, but was only for instruction in broad-sword exercise and infantry and cavalry discipline. The drills were confined to four periods a week, of two hours each.



ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY—SETON HILL.
In Charge of the Sisters of Charity.
Erected 1887.

The Pioneer Schoolmaster.

One Balthaser Meyer, a German settler from eastern Pennsylvania, was the pioneer schoolmaster of the vicinity of Greensburg, and, no doubt, Westmoreland county. About 1764 he located two miles southeast of Greensburg, in the vicinity of Harold's church, and instructed the youth of the few pioneers in secular knowledge and the Lutheran catechism for over twenty years thereafter.

School Bells.

When the common school system was inaugurated in Greensburg in 1837, the Court House bell was brought into requisition to notify the youth of the district when the hour had arrived to repair to the several places of instruction. At that period there were but two large bells in the town, the one on the temple of justice, and the other, a smaller and less far-sounding one, in the little belfry of the old German church (popularly known as "the Bee Hive"). As the use of the Court House bell for that purpose was freely granted by the county officials, it became the regular medium thereafter of summon-



THE SEMINARY—SETON HILL.
In Charge of the Sisters of Charity.
Erected 1887.

ing the children to school. It served in that capacity for a quarter of a century, or until the New Academy (No. 1 school building) was erected. A bell was then procured and placed in the tower of that structure. During the spring school term of 1878, however, a lad who was permitted to ring the bell, at the appointed hour, by the janitor, either through a lack of knowledge or by design, put so much energy into the work that he cracked it, and, that particular bell was forever silenced. In the autumn of 1878 the Board of Directors purchased a new bell from a Pittsburg founder, and had it placed in the belfry of No. 1 school building. The new bell weighed 1,015 pounds, being much larger and of better tone than the old one. About 1891 it was removed to the tower of No. 2 school building, where it still does duty daily during the school term.

Other Educational Institutions.

The corner stone of the Greensburg Seminary was formally laid on July 18, 1874. The institution was projected by Rev.

Lucien Cort, and conducted under the care of the Pittsburg Synod of the Reformed church. It was originally designed as a seminary for the education of young ladies, and was first opened on April 7, 1875, with fifty students in attendance. In July, 1888, it was leased and subsequently pur-



RESIDENCE OF MR. W. D. WALTHOUR.
Oakland Avenue.

chased by the "Educational Society of Westmoreland County." Although under the control of members of the Lutheran faith, it is conducted in a non-sectarian manner. By the new management the institution was opened to students of both sexes. In connection with the Seminary there has been established a business college. In all its departments the institution is on a substantial and successful basis. In recent years the attendance has been from 300 to 350 students. The main building, or Seminary proper, is located on a large lot, bounded on the east by Seminary Avenue, and on the west by Oakland Avenue. Its situation is an elevated one and commands a view of the entire western section of Greensburg. The building is an excellent brick and stone structure.

St. Joseph's Academy for the education of young ladies, and St. Mary's Seminary, for the instruction of small boys, occupy the most commanding eminence in this vicinity. They are located on Seton Hill, the northwestern suburb of Greensburg, and are in charge of the Sisters of Charity. The corner stone of this magnificent edifice was placed in position, with befitting ceremonies, on April 21, 1887. The building was constructed in the most substantial manner of brick and cut stone, and embraces every modern comfort and convenience. The frontage is 171 feet and the depth 73 feet. The height of the main building is 47 feet, with a handsome tower 52 feet, making the aggregate height 99 feet. With the furnishings the total cost of the massive and superb structure was about \$150,000.

Both the Academy and Seminary are well attended during the school terms, and their educational character is of the highest order. Surrounding the beautiful buildings is a fertile and carefully cultivated farm of about two hundred acres, also owned by the Sisters of Charity. In 1896 an elegant

chapel was erected, which adjoins the Academy on the north. It is 140 feet in length, 72 feet wide and 58 feet high on the interior.

St. Benedict's parochial school, connected with the Most Holy Sacrament (Catholic) church, is situated on the west side of North Main Street. It is an excellent brick and stone structure, and contains four large, airy and cheerful school rooms. It is attended by from 200 to 250 pupils. The building was erected in 1892, at a cost \$8,000. It is contemplated, in the near future, to enlarge or double the size, adding four more commodious rooms. A parochial school has been maintained by the Greensburg Catholic congregation since 1860. Two other school houses, of a less pretentious character, were erected at different periods, prior to the present substantial building.



VIEW OF GREENSBURG, FROM BUNKER HILL, IN 1874.

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ERRATA.

- Page 3—Second column, fourth line, £1000 instead of £1.00.
Page 29—First column, fifth line, No. 10 instead of No. 58.
Page 35—Omitted from summary of taxable property in Greensburg in 1800; three slaves.
Page 43—Planting mill of Mr. J. Coyode Reed; Junction of East Pittsburg and East Otterman Street.
Page 63—Residence of Mr. John Dorn; East Pittsburg Street instead of West Pittsburg Street.
Page 114—Line 10; Designated instead of designed.

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